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2



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24



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Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Remembering Hunter

 Jason Goemans talks about the three-year-old son he lost in ATV accident Easter weekend

Jenn Watt
Editor

Hunter Goemans was going to grow up to be a caring, compassionate man.

A friend to everyone – especially his dad.

Jason Goemans expected to have a lifetime of memories with his son.

He hoped to create a close bond with Hunter, just like he has with his own father, Tony.

It didn't happen that way.

Instead, the happy, curious, fair-haired boy died on Lipsey Lake Drive, not far from the family cottage on Kennisis Lake, the place he loved more than anywhere else.

His death at age 3 1/2 has left a family devastated and Hunter's father haunted by the memory of April 7.

"He was smiling and laughing with me one minute before and he was just gone," Goemans said in an interview with the *Echo*.

Jason Goemans was driving the ATV that sunny Saturday afternoon on a road he thought was safe. Riding together was an activity the father and son regularly engaged in and this day Goemans and his son went out for a short ride while his daughter, Brooke, and wife, Danica, stayed at the cottage making Easter cookies.

"We went down Lipsey Lake [Drive]. We were gone for 10 minutes. The thing he liked to do was we'd turn the engine off, put it in neutral and we'd coast down whatever slope going very slow. He loved it and he was laughing because he couldn't hear the engine. I had just turned the engine back on and went up a hill and came down," Goemans remembers.

"I literally was not going fast. Maybe 35 or 40 kilometres an hour, and then all of a sudden at the end of the road I didn't even see the chain."



Hunter Goemans was a happy, curious 3 1/2-year-old boy who loved the cottage. He passed away April 7 in an ATV accident./Photo submitted

I didn't know it was a chain. I don't know what hit me. I woke up in a pool of blood and I didn't know what happened. I looked over at my boy and he wasn't in good shape. ... I didn't even know what hit us. I didn't see anything."

Goemans picked up his son and started walking back towards the main road.

"I stopped every 50 feet and tried to blow air into him I was blowing air and I thought I was helping him and I was screaming for bloody help. Somebody help me. I carried him three kilometres [to West Shore Road]," he said.

It was there that his father and brother, already on the search, found him.

Goemans spent a lot of time with his son over

the boy's short life.

Despite being the vice-president of Hamilton's Goemans Appliances, the 36-year-old made time for his kids, he said.

He remembers Hunter as being incredibly loving and affectionate, reaching out to family and friends, and creating easy bonds, despite his youth.

"He loved to give kisses and hugs. We'd put him to bed and [he'd say], 'Daddy or Mommy, just one more kiss.' If I dropped him off at school in the morning ... [he'd say], 'Daddy, give me one more kiss and hug.' The teacher would literally have to

see 'HE page 3

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New funding buoys county pool study

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

The concept for a swimming pool in Haliburton County is beginning to float.

After months of dedication and commitment, the County Swimming Pool Initiative led by chairperson Gay Bell announced they have raised \$35,000 to complete a market demand feasibility study, a step forward their hopes to see a pool built within the region.

The news came during a press conference held at the Minden Community Centre on April 12, where the committee announced they were also successful in receiving significant government dollars towards the study.

On behalf of the Haliburton County Development Corporation, Patti Tallman presented Bell with a \$10,000 cheque from the Eastern Ontario Development Fund.

Along with support from HCDC, the committee also received a \$16,000 Ontario Trillium Foundation grant, presented by Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott and foundation grant review member Klara Oyler.

Both Scott and Oyler congratulated the committee on their successful grant application, which was prepared with help from the Haliburton and District Lions Club.

"There is a lot of work that goes into applying for these grants. I want to extend big congratulations to Gay for your leadership," said Scott.

Similar congratulations were also extended from Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid and Algonquin Highlands Reeve Carol Moffatt, however, both were unable to attend.

"I'm delighted that we now have the funding in place to move ahead with the research that will answer that very important question [if we have enough community support for a Haliburton YMCA] ... We're a small county with limited resources and we need to make sure we don't go down a path that the com-



Angelica Blenich Staff

The County Swimming Pool Initiative committee showed their support for a pool at a press conference on April 12 held at the Minden Community Centre, announcing the total funds for a market demand feasibility study had been raised. Committee members include, from left, Sue Shikaze, Karl Braeker, Vicki Braeker, Joe Bringmann, Dawn Hurd, Gay Bell, Diana McCullough, Harvey Bates, Gary McKnight and Darlene McKnight.

munity can't support," Reid wrote to the committee commanding them for their hard work and support of the project.

As county liaison to the committee, Moffatt wrote she was "looking forward to the next steps to determine how this project can play out in the community for the benefit of all citizens."

The committee is now in the process of considering a proposal from Leisure Plan International to determine if a pool and recreation complex is sustainable in Haliburton County.

The study will not only include questions about the public's desire for a swimming pool but also a recreation centre, said Bell.

"The consultant that we hire will help us determine certain factors, such as how much money are people willing to pay," she said.

Conducted through phone surveys, the primary purpose is to get a representation of the demographics that make up the county, ultimately determining if a pool is sustainable.

Bell and committee members are hopeful those who are contacted by phone answer questions in a positive manner.

"Talk to people you know about why they might need or want a pool," Bell said.

Other local organizations extended support for the idea of a complex as well, including the Haliburton Rotary Club and the Aging Well Committee.

"By pursuing this initiative we will retain and attract new residents thereby increasing the vitality of our local businesses. We will increase the health and well being of our aging population and our youth. We will increase resilience in our community at a time when creating stronger, bolder communities has never been more important," said Rotary club president Brian Nash.

There are many reasons a pool is needed in the community, including health benefits, the desire for local recreation programs and to support children and youth, said Bell. After nearly drowning in a lake in Peterborough at the age of 32, Harvey Bates decided he wanted to learn how to swim.

Now the committee member is one of the most vocal supporters of the proposed recreation centre.

Bates thanked those in the community, especially Bell, on their dedication to getting the necessary funding in place for the study.

"It took a shocking amount of work," he said.

The committee is hoping to have the finished study in the next few months.

Once completed, it should help determine how high a hurdle the county has to overcome to construct a pool, said Bell.

The YMCA has shown interest in a recreation complex, however, before getting involved the organization requires a market study be done.

The YMCA's involvement significantly increases the likelihood of long-term sustainability for this project, according to the CSPI.

One person in attendance asked how they can convince people to support the idea, to which committee members stressed the economic benefits a pool will bring to the area, as well as the money saved from driving to pools outside the county.

The group has researched multiple locations for such a centre, narrowing down the options to a few municipal properties including behind the Minden Community Centre and on Harburn Road in Haliburton Village. Previous thoughts of building it near the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School are no longer a viable option due to the land being owned by the Trillium Lakelands District School Board, said Bell.

"We would have to buy the land from the school board in order to put the pool there, as they are not willing to donate it," she said.

The committee is hoping the study will deliver positive results and more direction over what type of facility is built, whether it be YMCA, county or municipally directed. If the study comes back stating a swimming pool and recreation centre is not sustainable in Haliburton County the group will continue to examine their options, including if the county increase taxes to cover the operating costs, said Bates.

The group is the third committee to try to build a pool in Haliburton County since the 1990s, according to Bell.

Man dies in motorcycle accident

A 28-year-old man died Friday after he fell off his motorcycle on Highway 28 in Highlands East.

Ian Ritchie of Petawawa was travelling north on Highway 28 on April 6 around 5 p.m. when he was "ejected from the motorcycle," a report from the Bancroft OPP reads.

He was taken to Quinte Healthcare North Hastings by ambulance with major injuries.

He was later moved to Kingston General Hospital where he passed away.

Ritchie was wearing a helmet at the time of the accident.



Hunter Cruz Goemans

On behalf of the Goemans family we want to give a special thanks to Constable Peter Backus, the ambulance crew as well as the doctors

and nurses' at the Haliburton Hospital for being so compassionate and professional during that devastating day we lost our little Hunter.

Even though we are still in shock from that horrific and preventable accident, it is comforting to know that the people who were simply doing their job, did it with such gentleness. It made a difference. We didn't get a chance to express our gratitude to you given the circumstances but we are grateful nonetheless.

God willing we will not require the services you provided us ever again.

Tuesday, April 17, 2012


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'He just was really a kind soul'

from page 1

pry him off me, which is adorable, of course," he said.

"I'd give anything to have one more hug."

Goemans's last moment with Hunter ended up being in a Haliburton hospital room.

Despite his efforts to revive Hunter, Goemans was later told his son had died instantly when his body hit the chain that was strung between two trees.

The ambulance took Hunter to hospital and eventually Goemans was also brought there.

"When I got to the hospital my wife told me 'say goodbye to our little boy - he's gone' and I lost it. I don't remember the minutes after I looked at him on that hospital bed, tubes down his throat, bloody, lifeless. I kissed his lips and for the first time they were cold and blue ... I want to forget that image but I can't," he wrote in an email to the paper.

Goemans suffered only minor injuries.

The circumstances surrounding the ATV crash April 7 are still under investigation by the OPP.

Spokesperson Constable Sandy Adams from the Haliburton Highlands detachment said alcohol and speed are not considered factors.

Questions of whether the chain was properly flagged, whether the road was on private property and confirmation that Hunter was wearing a helmet are all part of the investigation and Adams said she was unable to comment.

Goemans said his son was wearing a helmet.

Over the week following Hunter's death, the Goemans family has been surrounded by support, which Jason Goemans wants to acknowledge.

The family took an ad out in the *Echo* thanking the medical staff, paramedics and police for their compassion in the minutes and hours after the pair was found.

The support has extended to the family's home in the Hamilton area.

"As unimaginable as the pain is as our new reality sinks [in] it is equally amazing (almost overwhelming) how much support we are getting from friends and family - even strangers who didn't know us or Hunter offering their prayers and well wishes. We've been reading all the condolence remarks posted online through the funeral home and it is really comforting and remarkable in that there is so much love out there. We can't possibly thank everyone enough," Goemans wrote in an email.

Even with the kind words and love, the days following the accident were excruciating.

"It's been tough ... I go back to: what if I had turned left rather than right? What if I had just listened to my wife? What if we didn't have a quad? And, what if we didn't have the cottage? I'm just what-if-ing everything to death here," Goemans said, "He was such a part of my family, my soul."

Hunter also left behind a sister and buddy, Brooke, 15 months his senior.

"They were like best friends. He looked up to her and the two of them did everything together. I don't think Brooke realizes right now what she's lost," he said.

In one photo taken earlier this year submitted by the family, Hunter and Brooke stand hand-in-hand on wobbly ice skates.



Hunter and his mom Danica Goemans on a family vacation to Mexico this winter. /Photo submitted



Sister and brother, Brooke and Hunter, were always together. Best friends.



Hunter sits on his dad's lap. Jason Goemans describes him as loving anything with an engine.

Hunter's smile beams, just as Goemans said it always did.

"He just was really a kind soul. One of his favourite expressions was 'I'm your friend, Mommy, I'm your friend, Daddy, I'm your friend, Poppa.' He always had a smile," he said.

In fact, Hunter is smiling in nearly all of the photos Goemans has looked through in the past week. From family vacations in warm destinations to lakeside antics at the cottage, he seemed to always be having fun.

"Watching a video/slideshow last night my brother-in-law put together over two days really hit home as to just how many good times, places and memories we generated and at least I don't have that regret that we should've/ could've done more - we actually did do it all. In each and every countless photo he never once wasn't smiling," he wrote.

It's how Jason Goemans would like to remember him.

"He was such a good, happy kid. I don't have one bad memory, not at all."

Fine-tuning tourism promotion

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

Last week councillors on the county's economic development committee learned what the municipality's got going for it and what it needs to work on when it comes to tourism promotion.

Richard Innes of Brain Trust Marketing and Communications gave an overview of premier-ranked destination framework project his company is performing for the Haliburton Highlands during an April 11 committee meeting.

It's a process his firm has provided for 33 other communities.

"Once the work has been done, these destinations have a very clear picture of what they need to do," Innes said.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, Innes said the Highlands' biggest tourism attractor is its water- and land-based recreational opportunities, ones that can be enjoyed year-

round.

Its second biggest asset was its arts, cultural and heritage attractions.

"You have two solid reasons why people are currently coming to the destination," Innes said.

Something it's lacking is what Innes called the animation of public spaces, including buskers and street performers.

"Currently, you're not doing those types of things on a regular basis," he said.

Nor under the framework are the Highlands currently considered "hospitable" or "good value for money."

In order to gain a better understanding of how these goals can be achieved, "we need to start asking our guests," Innes said.

The bulk of the people visiting the Highlands are from the GTA and Durham and York regions and many stay at private homes and cottages.

Innes said cottagers need to be treated as tourists.

"We want them to leave their property," he said.

Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid was looking for an example of how the county could better leverage its seasonal population to get out to attractions.

Innes responded the best way to do this was to ensure they knew what was going on in the area.

He had a number of recommendations which included adopting a tourism action plan, building growth around the two key attractors, exploring opportunities for hosting more sporting events and embracing the recently introduced ambassador program.

That program encourages area residents and business owners to become promoters of local tourism by taking a flash course in customer service and being part of a database that will keep people up to date on area events and activities.

The county, which is restructuring its economic development and tourism department to focus solely on the latter, will be holding a tourism town hall meeting at the Haliburton Legion on May 7.

WES raises autism awareness

Wilberforce Elementary School celebrated World Autism Awareness Day April 2 by wearing blue (part of the Light It Up Blue campaign to raise awareness for autism), decorating the school with blue paper balloons, wearing blue gimp bracelets and going for a walk through Wilberforce, carrying signs to make the community aware of this day.

Abigail Kauffeldt holds one of our Honk For Autism signs.
Photo submitted by Tracey Nottage



Tourism meeting set

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

Haliburton County will be hosting a tourism town hall meeting on May 7.

The event, similar to one held two years ago, will be a chance for tourism stakeholders to voice their opinions on what direction they would like to see the revamped tourism department take as well as provide input surrounding the creation of a tourism development plan for the municipality.

The meeting will take place at the Haliburton Legion with registration starting at 8:30 a.m. It will run until 12:30 p.m. and involve the completion of a survey.

At an April 11 economic development committee meeting, councillors recommended consultant Jim Blake facilitate the event and provide a follow up report for \$5,000 plus HST.

The county will be sending invitations and RSVPs to business owners.

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Colourfest nets two festival awards



Jenn Watt Staff

Above, members of the Colourfest committee celebrate winning two Festivals and Events Ontario awards for their work on the 2011 fall festival in Haliburton. From left, Sandre Daoust, Jim Frost, Debra Dart and Jerelyn Craden share a laugh on the porch of the Haliburton Echo April 11 following a group photo.



Jenn Watt Staff

The Colourfest committee won two Festivals and Events Ontario awards this year: Best New Event and Best Promotional Campaign. Colourfest is a Business Improvement Area event run in the fall each year in downtown Haliburton. Committee members from left, Marilyn Frost, Sandre Daoust, Jim Frost, organizer Jerelyn Craden, Debra Dart, BIA administrator Rosemarie Jung, Andy Glecoff and Bill Wakely.

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Jenn Watt
Editor

It was a golden season for Colourfest 2011.

Not only did the Business Improvement Area event put on its biggest show yet, it garnered provincial attention with two Festivals and Events Ontario honours.

The October, 2011, production won Best New Event and Best Promotional Campaign, both in the under \$100,000 budget categories.

"I was surprised," Colourfest committee member Jim Frost said of the win. "I thought we would have heard earlier. ... I forgot all about it ... I just about dropped the phone [when I heard]."

"Jerelyn [Craden] did a fabulous job and Bill [Wakely] recruited about half of the county," Frost said.

The BIA hired Craden to promote and run the festival on Oct. 1, which included the OPP Golden Helmets motorcycle show (brought in by Community Care); local performers; a Celtic group; and a pet contest among other things.

Last year's event was partially funded by a \$27,000 Celebrate Ontario grant and money from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

The festival built momentum over the last four years, Craden said, with a full year of planning each time.

"You have to get to advertisers [early] because they plan a year ahead for spending," Wakely said.

"You have to secure headline acts early ... and promotion starts as soon as the last event is over," Craden said.

The Best New Event award takes into account the "impact of the festival/event, including information on attendance, revenues, community benefit and potential legacy," according to Festivals and Events Ontario.

The Best Promotional Campaign evaluates marketing material, media opportunities, promotional material and websites.

Craden points out that there were more than 50 volunteers involved in last year's Colourfest and more than 25 sponsors that all share credit for its success.

Committee members included Jim and Marilyn Frost, Wakely, Sandre and Brian Daoust, Nelly Ashworth, Brad Park, Laurie Bonfield, John Bauman, Andy Glecoff, Kait Perecko, Debra Dart and Pat Dickson.

"There was a lot of work done," BIA administrator Rosemarie Jung said, "It was a huge group effort."

The BIA is looking for a new co-ordinator this year as Craden turns to other marketing and promotional work. They are also seeking committee members. You can contact Jung at haliburtonbia@mail.com.

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points of view

Memories

AS HUMANS, WE want to make a sense of tragedy.

People don't die - kids don't die - for no reason. That's what we like to think.

So we search for meaning in the face of despair.

In the last week, the most horrible of horrible things happened in our county.

A little boy named Hunter Goemans, just 3 1/2 years old, was killed while riding on an ATV with his dad, Jason.

There are all kinds of things that could have been done differently.

Maybe Hunter would have lived if ...

Those what-ifs don't help and they don't bring back the little boy with the easy smile.

Constructive change could come from his death.

Better flagging of chains and ropes across roads and driveways could be one outcome.

Greater diligence when on vacation or when on motorized vehicles is another.

But I think the real thing to learn from all of this - the sense to make of the senseless - is that we need to spend the time with our friends,

family and kids that they deserve.

Jason Goemans is second-guessing a lot of things this week and he will be maybe for the rest of his life, but one thing he's not second-guessing is the time he spent with his son.

They travelled together, played together, went to the cottage together.

He has tons of videos, photos and memories of their short time together.

In an email to the *Echo*, Goemans puts it this way: "The one thing

that we're trying to focus on is the good times and ... we had A LOT of them. I had a particularly close relationship with Hunter and I've been told we did more in his short 3 1/2 years than many do in a lifetime."

Changes will happen because of Hunter's death.

You can be sure there are land-owners adding fluorescent tape to their laneway's gate this week and ATVers driving with a more focused eye to the road.

But from a universal perspective, what we can all take from this is how precious our time with one another is.

And when it's all over, how important the memories created will be.



Jenn Watt
Editor



Whichever way the wind blows

photo by Darren Lum

Hen parties

SOME MEN ATTRACT money. Some attract women. Some attract fame.

I happen to attract hen turkeys. Call it a gift.

If you need an example, consider two days last week.

On each of those afternoons, a hen turkey - let's call her Gloria - walked out of the woods, down my driveway and straight into my heart.

In fact, our connection was so meaningful that I fully expected her to hand me a rake and ask me to commence with yard work.

Believe it or not, I'm used to this sort of thing. You see, ever since I took up turkey hunting, hens have made it their mission in life to find me. I once had one peck my boots.

I figure they do this for two reasons. First, they know that, so long as they don't have a beard, the law protects them during the spring hunting season. But, more importantly, I believe they are just looking for someone who thinks they are beautiful.

Look, I know that a hen turkey is definitely not the world's most attractive creature. In fact, I figure they rank somewhere between voles and burdock on the universal attractiveness scale. (To be fair, I rank only slightly ahead of milkweed.)

But maybe this is why lady turkeys like me; perhaps they sense that I understand their pain and appreciate what little beauty they do have. In fact, I go out of my way to take photos of them whenever the opportunity presents itself. To

me, they're cool.

The last time I saw Gloria, I reached for my camera, stepped out the door and I ran right into her - literally.

You'd think this would make a turkey hightail it. Instead, she just hopped three feet and started to slowly walk off while I took seven photos and uttered phrases like, "Work with me baby!" and "Oh yeah! How about showing a little more drumstick?"

Whether she wants to admit it or not, I figure Gloria likes the attention. Heck, I almost expected her to come back to approve the shots.

This doesn't just happen to me on my driveway, by the way. During almost every turkey hunt I've been on in the last few years, I've had hens flock to me. And usually they lead their boyfriends right to my gun. Which is something I figure they do because they know he's playing the field.

Last turkey season, I watched a pretty little hen - let's call her Wilma - perch on a rock about 10 yards in front of me and preen for around 15 minutes. For the record, I didn't even try to reach for my camera - I'm not that type of photographer.

Still, as the sunlight illuminated that bird, it wasn't hard to see that even hen turkeys can be beautiful with the right lighting and the proper amount of morning mist.

Then again, in that setting, even the milkweeds looked great.



Steve Galea
Loon Tales



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points of view

Wondrous walk

I DON'T WANT TO GO," said a truculent voice in the backseat. Ivan ignored it and kept his eyes on the road. The conversation had already taken place and the decision made. Despite the less-than-perfect weather they were going on a group walk through a part of the county Ivan had barely explored. Twelve-year-old Sadie, however, was less than enthusiastic, preferring to stay home in front of the Internet. Sometimes the adults make the decisions, not the children, Ivan had told her.

It was a cool windy April Sunday, the sky slightly overcast and the ground bare and mostly brown. No trilliums had yet appeared but wild leeks broke the monochromatic hills with their cheery green shoots. Ivan pulled the truck in behind other vehicles and after an introductory talk to explain what the people gathered might expect for the next two hours, the little group headed into the woods.

Led by Jack, the enthusiastic and knowledgeable property owner, people followed a trail system that wound through the acres of bush. Sadie continued to grumble until Ivan shot her a warning glance. The grumbling stopped but the scowl remained.

They were surrounded by trees and hilly rock outcroppings. Once Jack explained precisely what kind of trees and rocks they were seeing, the trek became more meaningful. They discovered that yellow birch grew long and large after getting a start in some unexpected places. Red oak leaves have pointed tips while white oak's are rounded but do not grow in the area.

Ivan couldn't help but marvel at the girth of the white pines that had escaped the axe. Despite most of the forest having been logged extensively, there were still pockets of old growth, left because they had been too difficult or too remote to cut. He learned how to recognize an old growth tree by its location and the way its branches grew.

The little band of trekkers was surprisingly hardy. Both Ivan and Sadie were the youngsters and had to make an effort to keep up with the strong grey-haired walkers. They clambered up and over hillsides and across strategically placed logs. Some, like Jack, had walking sticks which they used to manoeuvre steep inclines. Being foolishly stick-less himself, Ivan dug his sneakers into the soft spring earth and grabbed rocks wherever possible to make the grades. Behind him Sadie was silent. He glanced over his shoulder and saw that she was so concentrated on keeping up she had forgotten to scowl. Her cheeks were glowing in the healthy outdoors and he wondered if she might even be enjoying some of this despite herself.

Then the sun came out and the air immediately warmed. People unzipped jackets and donned sunglasses that had been hiding in folds of fabric. They were about to take a break for drinks and fruit when Jack called to Sadie to join him up front. Then they all stopped in front of a massive beech tree. Jack pointed out to Sadie the bear claw marks on the tree trunk. He immediately had everyone's attention including Sadie's. But these were no mere scratchings into bark. They continued up the trunk and Jack, placing his hand and fingers in the paw's place, described how the bear would have climbed the tree in pursuit of beech nuts, a tasty bear treat. As though that wasn't enough excitement, Jack then bent down and picked up a small garter snake he had glimpsed on the ground. He handed it to Sadie who did herself proud by gently holding the harmless reptile before letting it go again.

As they sat and stood about drinking and munching Jack spoke of the benefits to the forest environment that plants such as trout lilies and amphibians like salamanders bring. They actually changed the chemical balance of the terrain. Ivan was also surprised to learn that salamanders could live up to 30 years. He noticed Sadie wore a rapt expression as she chewed her apple and listened to Jack. The claw marks had definitely caught her attention, he thought.

The walkers moved through tracings of sunlight between the trees as they made their way back to their starting point. The branches were alive with the twittering and chirps of dozens of song birds. Sadie was quiet as she walked beside Ivan, apparently lost in thought. "Thanks for making me come with you dad," she finally said, eyes on the ground. "Sometimes you are right after all." Then she looked up at him and smiled.



Sharon Lynch
Down our Road



pic of the past

Ed Couvert's home on South Wilbermere Lake which later became the home of Frank Saunders and family and is accessed by the Saunders Road. My uncle Archie Hillis and a friend are standing on the raft which was just out from the shore of the Hillis property. Photo taken about 1925. Submitted by Aileen (Young) Broughton.

letters to the editor

Sharing is caring

To the Editor,

I just wanted to take a moment to comment and compliment the drivers of Haliburton County.

As a recreational cycling enthusiast, I have the privilege of riding hundreds of kilometres per season on your amazing roads. This weekend was my first 70 kilometre ride of the season. I must say, as with last year, every vehicle that passed me did so with courtesy and care.

What a breath of fresh air from where I ride in another part of Southern Ontario.

Cottagers and locals alike, I applaud you for your care and ability to share the road! Local riders and drivers, keep up your great relationship!

John Swarbrick
Mirror Lake

Robocall scandal

To the Editor,

Barry Devolin and the Conservative party are playing all innocent in the robocall scandal, but it is clear that the calls could not have been targeted specifically against Liberal supporters without a huge database identifying each household.

The Conservative party has been at the forefront of identifying the voting intentions of households across the country with its Constituency Information Management System (CIMS).

Yes, the Conservative Party has a political file on many of us. When they call your household and ask if you would consider voting for their candidate your response is forever locked into their computer file system.

Whoever perpetrated the calls had to have access to the system. No individual on his or her own has that kind of information. Considering the dire financial straits that the Liberal party has been in for years, the Conservative party with its moneybags probably knows better than the Liberals themselves who the Liberal supporters are in any individual riding.

Larry Bukta
Minden

More letters to the Editor on page 8

letters

Thank you Highland Storm Peewee AEs

To the Editor,

I would like to publicly thank the Highland Storm Peewee AEs for the fantastic season they had this past year.

My congrats to Josh Bellefleur, Trevor Turner, Matt Manning, Jon Morrison, Alex Petrie, Jacob Haedicke, Alec Stoughton, Jesse Sisson, Carter O'Neil, Ben Schmidt, Aiden Garbutt, Alex Wilbee, Mitch Billings and Ryan Prentice for many games of enjoyment for me and my family.

Congrats to coaches Bob Schmidt and Jon Petrie. You guys took these boys and made them a team. You have proved to me there are still coaches out there that don't have to yell and

scream at their team to teach them the skills and get them to play as a team. To trainers Jason Billings and Tom Prentice, you both worked on all their bumps and bruises and did a great job looking after them. And last but not least to manager Dana Manning, you were great with your organizational skills and keeping things straight. Also a great job at the Silverstick tournament fundraising for the team.

Thanks also to all the moms and dads out there who spent many hours over the winter at the arena and made me feel like part of their family.

This team had a great regular season in the Muskoka-Parry Sound league, won the tournament in Campbellford and

Huntsville and were finalists in their own Silverstick Tournament and finally to become the OMHA all-Ontario finalists in the playoffs.

I was very proud of these boys at that last game on March 30. They showed great respect for the Ayr team. It was with pride that I watched the Highland Storm team skate around the ice with their silver cup. You all are *champions* in my eyes.

Diane Peacock
Minden

Rail Trail needs rules enforced

To the Editor,

The following letter was sent to Haliburton county councillors

We read in this week's newspapers that you voted to have the Rail Trail open to ATVs on May 14 this year. You may be interested to know that at 11 a.m. this morning (Friday, April 6) a group of ATVs cruised past our property on the trail, not bothering to stop or slow down at the stop sign at our driveway. We

weren't able to see the entire group, so don't know how many were in it.

The point really is that you can choose whatever date you like, but if there is no enforcement, ATVs and other motorized users will use the trail whenever they like. This could even be as simple as putting huge boulders at the most-used entrances to the trail to block the way. That wouldn't necessarily stop everyone, but it might go some way to bringing home the message. In the past, the ATV association has told us that they are help-

less to enforce the rules before the season, as they can't go on the trail to do so.

Why not just say that anyone and everyone is welcome at any time of the year? It's what happens, and will continue to happen, if the rules you make aren't enforced.

Elaine Bell and Jack Bush
Adjacent landowners
Gelert Road

East Coast music comes to the Highlands

Much of Canada's best music comes from our East Coast. This vibrant Maritime sound combines traditional Celtic music with country and folk music. And over the next few weeks and months some of the East Coast's finest will be performing in the Haliburton Highlands courtesy of the Haliburton County Folk Society.

It started with Teresa Doyle who was an artist-in-residence at Winter Folk Camp in March. She entertained and enchanted with her repertoire of Celtic, jazz, and world music. Dave Gunning will be the next Maritime singer/songwriter to be in town. He will be performing at 7:30 p.m. this Thursday, April 19 at the Fish Hatchery. Dave has nine critically acclaimed CDs to his credit. His latest award-winning recording project, *A Tribute to John Allan Cameron* was recently honoured with a prestigious 2012 Juno Award nomination for Roots & Traditional Solo Album of the Year. Gunning was the winner of two 2011 Canadian Folk Music Awards, and has been awarded six East Coast Music Awards since 2003. Galaxie Music makes the observation that, "Dave is one of Canada's finest songwriters: the way his eye sees things upon the land, the way his ear hears the voices of his people, his respect for those who have gone before, and his love of life in the land he loves, is beautifully

portrayed in gentle verse and rhyme. He is not a man you meet every day, he cares, and it shows in his music, both poetic and pointed." Tickets are available online at www.madeinhaliburton.ca or at Photo Shop in Haliburton and the Organic Times in Minden. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$23/person or \$17 for Folk Society members and youth.

Next up is Ron Hynes, "a man of a thousand songs." With a song writing career that spans more than 30 years, Ron Hynes is a six-time East Coast Music Award winner, a Genie Award winner and a past Juno, CCMA and Canadian Folk Music Awards nominee. Shelagh Rogers of CBC Radio describes Ron Hynes as "one of our greatest storytellers. He just happens to have been born with a beautiful voice. Every song is a novel. How can it be that Ron Hynes just gets better? Just listen." Ron will be performing songs from his latest CD, *Stealing Genius*. "I've been listening to the new Ron Hynes CD. I'm blown away by the virtuosity of Ron's voice, the diverse emotions that each of the songs evoked and have such respect for the man who produced such a gem. All I can say to Ron Hynes is BRAVO!" said Lynn Foster, SOCAN.

Hynes will be performing at the Wild Moose Pub on Sun-

day, May 13 at 7:30 p.m.

J. P. Cormier is another East Coaster on his way to the Highlands. Singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, sideman, innovator, recording artist, award winner. His names are many, but underlying that is a young man with an ancient soul who has travelled the world for the past 23 years bringing his unique brand of joy to audiences wherever he goes. He began playing guitar, self taught, at the age of five and quickly became immersed in the rich musical heritage of his Cape Breton roots. By the age of 9, he was considered a genuine prodigy and won his first guitar competition against 30 other players three times his age. By his mid-teens, it became obvious Cormier could play almost any stringed instrument he picked up. However it was his guitar playing that shone with his flawless executions of tunes learned from records of giants like Chet Atkins and Doc Watson. His impressive body of work of bluegrass, Celtic, and folk music has earned him a vast and loyal fan base, and multiple award nominations and wins. Cormier's performances are simply electrifying. He will be performing in the Highlands on Oct. 21.

For more information on these concerts visit www.haliburtonfolk.com.

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Walking for those who cannot

Photos by Darren Lum

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

Denise Cazabon, Bruce Cowen, Lorreen O'Neill, Joan Hampton, Buck Cowen and Leda Roberts.

These are more than names. They are the people who will be remembered at this year's Canadian Cancer Society Relay for Life.

Their names were written with care on artfully constructed luminaries, created at the Relay for Life promotional event at Fleming College on Tuesday, April 10.

There will be close to 2,000 luminaries destined to light the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School track, fueled by the warmth of the hundreds, who want to commemorate the memory and struggle of grandparents, fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, sons and daughters stricken by cancer.

Instead of letting these names disappear, the ring of fire will be seen for miles shining in the night at the 12-hour, overnight Relay for Life cancer fundraising walk in Haliburton on June 8.

Four-year veteran of the event and team captain, Valerie Jarvis, of JCs CR (Cancer Recovery) Warriors will be easy to spot, she said.

With a complete Valkyrie costume, including blonde braids, a horned helmet, breast plate, the letter V over a Christian fish on her chest, fur socks (to mimic fur boots) and a two-foot plastic noise-making sword, she is sure to turn heads as "Helga." She will be walking for those that cannot like her sister, mother and mother-in-law, Cazabon, who died of brain cancer a few years ago.

Last year, this team was the top fundraiser. This year's team is a 10-member women's team with three cancer survivors.

Relay volunteer Pat Cowen won't be walking, as she will be helping with registration, but sat at the circular table last week with a small collection of luminaries. She made sure to create them for cancer victims such as husband, Bruce Cowen, who died of lung cancer; mother, Lorreen; second-mother, Leda Roberts; father, Arnold Roberts; father-in-law Buck Cowen; daughter-in-law, Joan Hampton; and cancer survivor, brother Darrell O'Neill.

This was the first year Relay organizers facilitated a luminary creation night and hope to repeat it next year. The event partnered with representatives of Pampered Chef and Creative Memories, which donated 10 per cent of the proceeds and use of related equipment.

Contact local teams for opportunities to participate in the event.

Although there isn't a specific deadline, event organizers suggest participants register by May 17, the day of the team captain rally at the Haliburton Curling Club. There will be another opportunity to create luminaries.

Relay for Life is offering blankets and water bottles as keepsakes and practical souvenirs. See website www.relayforlife.ca and search for Haliburton or call 705-457-6901 for more information.



Top, Canadian Cancer Society Relay for Life welcomed people to make luminaries at the 12-hour cancer fundraiser walk's promotional event at Fleming College on Tuesday, April 10. There will be hundreds of people walking in memory and honour of cancer victims/survivors on June 8. For information www.relayforlife.ca.



Canadian Cancer Society Relay for Life registered participant Valerie Jarvis glues decorative touches to her luminary made at the 12-hour cancer fundraiser walk's promotional event at Fleming College on Tuesday, April 10. Jarvis a.k.a. Helga is the team captain of the JCs CR Warriors and will be walking with hundreds of others in memory and honour of cancer victims/survivors on June 8. For information www.relayforlife.ca.

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New casual fine dining restaurant coming to Haliburton

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

They're hoping to appeal to all who pass through and live in Haliburton.

Ann and Alan Gordon have plans to expand their restaurant business with the addition of a new establishment called Hali's Bistro.

Located at 172 Highland St., in the former restaurant Aniz, the eatery will offer what Ann describes as "casual fine-dining" fare.

The menu will include staples such as chicken, steak and seafood, as well as Italian cuisine, all set at price points between \$12 and \$24.

"It's a little above the other restaurants in town and a little below what Aniz was," said Ann.

The restaurateur sees the business venture as an opportunity to expand their other restaurant, the Kosy Korner, which the couple bought and took over in July of 2011.

Situated right next to one another, the restaurants will share staff members, as well as other logistical resources.

With an interest in supporting and using local food, Ann will be going to Abbey Gardens for fresh produce as well as other suppliers.

The owners hope to have the restaurant open by the May holiday week-

end and are in the process of applying for their liquor license.

The name is derived from the area as well as the couple's dog, called Hali in honour of Haliburton.

"The décor will pretty much stay the same, we've spent most of our energy on getting the kitchen up to speed," said Ann.

Living in the Highlands for the past 12 years, the Gordons have various business interests throughout the county and a heart for the area.

They believe there is a need for fine dining in Haliburton.

"We loved Aniz and we loved The Old Country House, so we just didn't want to see that close," said Ann.

The couple's son, Greg Gordon, is a trained chef with experience throughout the country, working in the GTA as well as other provinces.

Greg will be lending his skills to the new restaurant, working in the kitchen and influencing the menu.

Set to become a family affair, Hali's Bistro is brimming with many possibilities.

"Al and I are all about Haliburton ... we felt Haliburton needed this and we didn't want to see the place empty for the summer," said Ann.

The restaurant is set to be open seven days a week in the summer, from 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and six days in the fall/winter.



Angelica Blenich Staff

Ann Gordon is the owner of Haliburton's latest food establishment, Hali's Bistro, set to open on the May long-weekend. The casual fine-dining restaurant will be at 172 Highland St., in the building formerly housing Aniz.

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Highlands East council sows seed for garden

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

“

We understand this is not part of our mandate, however we felt that a community garden was tied into the way a community develops.

— Councillor Steven Kauffeldt

Just in time for the planting season, Highlands East is supporting the development of a community garden in Wilberforce.

The municipality passed a resolution to accept a concept development plan for the garden from the housing committee, a committee of council, at their April 10 meeting.

The plan is for a piece of property near the Essonville Church, in Wilberforce.

The committee would like to see the

property divided into three blocks, one to be used for a garden, the other two for a potential library and housing development, to be considered in the future.

Councillor Steven Kauffeldt, chair of the housing committee, told council there are several interested members of the community willing to help with the community garden.

“We understand this is not part of our mandate, however, we felt that a community garden was tied into the way a community develops,” said Kauffeldt.

The first step the group would like to take is to host a public meeting to discuss the garden in greater detail.

While councillors were in favour of the idea, Deputy-reeve Suzanne Partridge stressed the need to keep the project volunteer driven.

While specifics of the plan are still up in the air, the concept is a workable idea, said Kauffeldt.

“There’s lots of research to do still,” he said.

“This is a germ of an idea,” said Partridge.

A public meeting to discuss the concept has been scheduled to take place on April 19 at the Lloyd Watson Centre at 7 p.m.

Meeting to initiate a Haliburton Highlands chapter of CARP

Anyone who thinks having a local chapter formed for CARP members and potential members might be a good idea should consider attending a meeting at the Dysart branch of Haliburton County Public Library on Thursday, April 26 at 4.30 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide information on the benefits and great

advantages of forming a local chapter and to create an interim steering committee whose major responsibility would be to arrange for a full scale public meeting at a later date. At the subsequent meeting, a functional executive would be elected to carry on the activities of the chapter.

All existing and future members of

CARP (Canadian Association of Retired Persons) would automatically become members of this chapter at no additional cost and would be eligible to sit on the board and/or vote.

The potential impact of opening this chapter is very exciting as it would create a great representation of most of those 45

and older living in our county.

This group would be seen as a powerful advocacy entity both locally and nationally due to their affiliation with the national CARP organization.

For further information please contact Bob Stinson.

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Something to smile about

The Rotary Club of Haliburton members Kim Emmerson, left, Greg Phippen, Andrew Hodgson, Lance Edwards and John Bauman presented a \$5,000 cheque to the Volunteer Dental Outreach Clinic for Haliburton County's board of directors members William Kerr, Mark Arike, Skye Smith (dental assistant/co-ordinator) and Lisa Kerr. Last year this Rotary Club donated \$5,300 for the purchase of dental drills. The VDO has provided \$225,000 worth of dental care and has serviced 165 patients. There are 60 people on the waiting list for care.

Darren Lum Staff

Friends of the Rail Trail to host biodiversity event

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

Friends of the Rail Trail will be hosting a celebration of biodiversity along the Haliburton County Rail Trail after members of the county's economic development committee recommended approval of a special event application from the group at an April 11 committee meeting.

Critters on the Trail - Wow, what Biodiversity! is scheduled to take place June 9, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event will require that the trail from Haliburton Village to Donald be closed to motorized vehicles during these hours,

since the Friends' risk management policy doesn't allow its events to take place while vehicles are on the trail.

The group's May 20 and May 27 Rail Trail Rambles were lost after council decided to allow ATVs on the Rail Trail beginning May 14 this year (the previous start date had been June 1.)

Friends of the Rail Trail have received International Biodiversity funding to host the event.

The group is insured through the Haliburton County Community Co-op.

The application must still be approved by county council but it's rare for council to strike down a recommendation from one of its committees.



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No. 1 motivator for volunteers? Making a difference

Jenn Watt
Editor

They host radio shows, maintain trails, plan golf tournaments, marshal runners, cook dinners, hold hands of the sick and visit the elderly.

Volunteers in Haliburton County do it all.

According to staff at various not-for-profits across the Highlands, many of their activities would grind to a halt without the hundreds of volunteers that help out every week.

"They are the heart and soul of the organization," Sheila Ziman, president of the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust, said.

"We could not have accomplished what we have done without volunteers," she said, including protecting nearly 600 acres of ecologically sensitive lands, doing biodiversity research and providing education sessions for government and the public.

The land trust has 77 volunteers doing a plethora of tasks from paperwork and board service to installing signage, clearing

brush and running the yearly gala.

"SIRCH volunteers are the change agents of our community," says community co-ordinator Nancy Brownsberger, "They bring to each and every day the hope and optimism that makes our community an incredible place to live."

The community services organization has 89 volunteers, but would like 120 to provide hospice support, run the community kitchen, host nutrition programming, children's programming, special events, fundraising and more.

The motivator for volunteers is the "pay it forward" philosophy.

"At SIRCH, there is a culture of volunteerism as described by the volunteers and they state that for them, making a difference in the lives of others is their sole purpose."

At the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, volunteers sign up to see the hospitals and long-term care facilities grow.

"They also take great ownership of what they do and the benefit for the hospital. They always want to know how much

“

**We could not have
accomplished what we have
done without volunteers.**

— Sheila Ziman

"Not only do our volunteers complete the many, many tasks, they also are our donors. Talk about total commitment," Walker said.

At Canoe FM, there are 91 people who come in to do everything from host radio programs to tend the garden.

Station co-ordinator Roxanne Casey said the organization needs more on-air volunteers.

"Finding broadcasters or on-air hosts is definitely a challenge. People want to do anything but go on the air – fear is the No. 1 factor," she said.

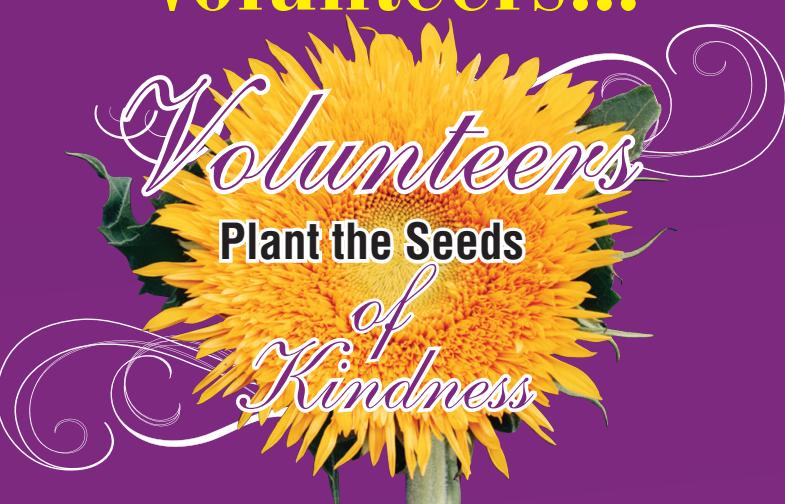
Nevertheless, many volunteers do go on the air or find other things to do to help, such as office work, technical work, fundraising and even cleaning.

"Canoe FM gives volunteers the opportunity to meet so many people and our volunteers are always thrilled when they can help people find something that is missing; reunite listeners with their animals or solve a problem when someone calls," she said.

"Volunteers learn so much about the Haliburton Highlands because they are

see VOLUNTEERS page 15

**To Our Amazing
Hyland Crest And Highland Wood
Volunteers...**



*The week of April 15th - 21st
is
National Volunteer Appreciation Week!*

*During this week we would like to reflect and thank those
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bring so much joy to the lives of so many of us.
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As **SIRCH** celebrates Volunteer Appreciation Week we take the time to reflect and gratefully acknowledge the multitude of wonderful volunteers (both past and present) who have made both **SIRCH** and the Haliburton Highlands a better place.

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Volunteers are 'backbone' of most non-profits

from page 14

dealing with public service announcements and information on a daily basis. Canoe FM fosters networking, communication skills, friendship and a huge feeling of satisfaction knowing that we are keeping people in the community connected and informed."

As with all the other non-profits surveyed for this article, Casey believes her volunteers like to help because they are making a difference in this community.

At Community Care, volunteer co-ordinator Brigitte Gebauer has compiled comments from those who give their time to her organization.

"One cannot fully explain the personal reward for being there when another human being is in need," writes volunteer Kim Antoni in Gebauer's document. "The blessing we receive is knowing we've made a difference in someone else's life, whether

delivering a meal, taking someone to an appointment, a phone call or a visit. We are serving a purpose. It's a cycle and right now, we are very fortunate to be on the giving side."

Gebauer oversees about 130 helpers, but said they can use more, especially for the Meals on Wheels program, which requires drivers and runners to deliver food across the county.

She calls her volunteers the "backbone" of Community Care, which provides Diner's Club, social recreation programs, security checks, friendly visiting, emergency response and transportation to seniors and those with disabilities.

"Volunteers are amazing. Before I moved to the Haliburton Highlands I didn't realize the impact this group of dedicated individuals can make to a community," Gebauer said.

"I've said it over and over again ... the Highlands are infinitely blessed to have

so many volunteers making a difference in our community... they touch all aspects of the community from children to seniors from social services to arts and music and culture. It makes it a rich and exciting place to live."

At Canoe FM, one of the board members pointed out to Casey that the station provides a "sense of belonging."

For the Minden Terry Fox Run, co-ordinator Diane Peacock believes the special day gives volunteers "the good feeling that they have made a difference."

There are 13 members of the Minden run's board, but many more are present during the event itself.

"Our volunteers register the participants, help with counting the funds received, do our barbecue, greet participants when they come back, work the water stations, help with the set up and take down of the site, community policing and we have the radio club and they help monitor our route," Peacock said.

cock said.

The volunteers of the Terry Fox Run also know they're part of something bigger.

"The Terry Fox Foundation is made up of thousands of volunteers across this country. It is because of these individuals that the foundation can donate 85 cents of every dollar to cancer research. Without them, we wouldn't be able to do these fundraisers."

Ziman echoes those sentiments.

"I believe our volunteers feel they are making a difference and are helping to protect our natural heritage for future generations. I believe they get great personal satisfaction and a sense of accomplishment putting their skills to work. There are often tangible results for the efforts," she said.

For those interested in volunteering, the annual Volunteer Fair will be held at the Haliburton Curling Club June 9.

Volunteer Week in Canada runs from April 15 to 21.



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HHHS Foundation welcomes new directors

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

When Sandy Adams saw firsthand the treatment her friend received at Haliburton health facilities during her battle with colon cancer she was impressed.

Though the battle ended unfortunately, Adams turned the situation into a positive one by becoming involved with the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation.

Adams along with Brad Duckworth are the most recent additions to the HHHSF, both appointed as directors.

A resident of the county for the past 15 years, Adams, 44, is well known through her role as an OPP constable and media relations and community service officer for the Haliburton Highlands detachment.

Married with two children, Adams has used the local hospitals for many reasons over the years, including ear infections and appendicitis.

"We've always gotten amazing care here," she said.

Adams was even more impressed with the care her friend received before passing away on Oct. 1, 2011.

"In the six weeks prior to her dying she became very, very ill ... so one of the doctors here took over her care," said Adams, adding her friend was admitted to the palliative care unit in Haliburton.

"For those nurses it wasn't just another terminal patient, they really cared about her and how she was doing," she said.

A colleague recommended Adams pursue an opening on the foundation's board of directors.

"I said pick me, pick me. I would absolutely love to do that."

The foundation is a direct reflection of the good work completed in the community, said Adams.

She plans to assist in fundraising efforts conducted by the HHHSF as well as promoting it.

"I just really believe in the amazing work that is done here," said Adams.

A commercial accounts manager for the Bank of Montreal in Haliburton, Duckworth, 56, moved up to the Highlands 30 years ago after marrying his girlfriend, who was from the area.

An ad in the newspaper announcing an opening on the HHHSF board caught Duckworth's eye.

A member of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce board of directors, Duckworth was looking for additional opportunities to volunteer within the community.

With previous hospital foundation experience in Huntsville, Duckworth is familiar with organizing charity events and promoting health services.

An avid golfer, the upcoming Rotary charity tournament is just one of the ways Duckworth will lend his support to the HHHSF.

He is looking forward to contributing to the many worthwhile causes of the foundation.

"Once you're on there, you're on there for life, that's what they told me," joked Duckworth.

In existence since 1997, the HHHSF began fundraising in 1998 and currently has 12 members, according to executive director Dale Walker.

Board members are expected to commit to three years with the foundation, said Walker.

"However many of our board members stay for much longer than that," she said.

Walker is confident both Adams and Duckworth will make valuable contributions to the foundation, as they are active and dedicated participants in the community.

With many projects on the go, such as the CT scanner, X-ray machines and palliative care suite, the executive director believes it is an exciting time for the foundation.



Angelica Blenich Staff

OPP Constable Sandy Adams was recently appointed to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation as a director. Adams is a strong believer in the good work the hospitals do.



Angelica Blenich Staff

Commercial account manager at Bank of Montreal Brad Duckworth is one of the newest directors to join the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation. Duckworth is looking forward to getting involved with the valuable cause.

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16th annual music festival returns

One of Canada's best known music educators and composers will join two other accomplished Canadian classical musicians to adjudicate the 16th annual Haliburton Highlands Music Festival, which will take place Wednesday through Friday at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion.

"We're gratified and excited that such high calibre musicians are willing to help local music students improve their performing abilities" said festival sponsor Len Pizzey.

"From the outset, our festival, unlike those in most larger communities, has been non-competitive," Pizzey said. "Its motto, 'Celebrating the Joy of Musical Performance' reflects the event's purpose, which is to offer local music students, whether they are children, teenagers or adults, a chance to showcase the hard work they have put in to learn to play an instrument."

"Our adjudicators enjoy the fact that they are not asked to award prizes or grade performances. Their role is to offer suggestions on how our performers can make the music they play sound more beautiful."

Nancy Telfer of Huntsville will share her considerable expertise with piano students, while violist Brandon Chui will work with instrumental performers and up and com-

ing lyric soprano Charlene Santoni will provide guidance to vocal soloists and ensembles.

Telfer has composed more than 300 works for pianists, soloists, chamber ensembles, orchestras, choirs and bands (for children and professional musicians). Many of these works have been specially commissioned by top performers and have been performed and broadcast around the world. Some are included in the Royal Conservatory's graded piano repertoire. Telfer is in demand as an adjudicator and clinician throughout Canada and has also adjudicated in the United States, Italy, Austria, Japan and Hong Kong. She says she enjoys working with performers of all ages.

Canadian violist Brandon Chui is a member of the Hamilton Philharmonic. Formerly principal viola of the Verbier Festival Orchestra in Switzerland and the Schleswig-Holstein Festival Orchestra in Germany, he also performs with the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, Thunder Bay Symphony, Toronto Symphony and plays baroque viola with the Aradia Ensemble in Toronto.

Canadian soprano Charlene Santoni made her professional debut at the age of 22, and her operatic credits are many.

She holds a bachelor of music in vocal performance from the University of Western Ontario and a post-baccalaureate diploma in voice performance from the University of Manitoba, where she concurrently completed an opera apprenticeship program with the Manitoba opera. She also received a master's degree in vocal performance and pedagogy from the University of Toronto and will continue her studies at the University of Toronto toward a doctorate of musical arts degree in voice performance.

She has a wealth of knowledge to offer students of any age, from beginners to those who are more advanced, on how to use their voice more effectively.

Everyone is welcome to sit in on any of the adjudicated sessions throughout the three-day festival, and there is no charge for admission, Pizzey said.

As in past years the festival will conclude with a highlights concert next Thursday evening, April 26 in which many of those who performed for the adjudicator will get a chance to repeat their performances in front of an appreciative audience.

Admission to the highlights concert is \$7.50 and tickets can be reserved by calling Kit Pizzey at 705-457-1363.

Concert series begins

The 2012 season for the Haliburton Concert Series begins soon and it is shaping up to be a very exciting year.

On Sunday, May 6, we welcome the piano duo Bax and Chung. Lucille Chung performed for the Haliburton Concert Series in 2010 and now she returns with her husband, Alessio Bax, for what we expect will be a fabulous piano duo concert. *Music and Arts, UK* magazine says "theirs is a marriage of wondrous colours and dexterous aplomb, subtly balanced to make a musical performance sound as one."

On Saturday, Sept. 15, the trio Triple Forte will perform for us. It is a piano, violin, and cello trio. Jasper Wood, the violinist, and David Jalbert, the pianist, have performed for the Haliburton Concert Series as soloists in past seasons. They return with cellist Yegor Dyachkov for a concert where the three young masters of their craft combine forces to create breathtaking music. The final concert of our 2012 season will take place on Sunday, Oct. 21, and we are thrilled to welcome LeBlanc and Kortgaard. Pianist Robert Kortgaard has accompanied several performers in past seasons for the Haliburton Concert Series, and is returning this time with soprano Suzie LeBlanc. Suzie has established an international career specializing in 17th- and 18th-century repertoire, but she is now also known for her expertise in Acadian folk music. We look forward to hearing her many talents in this concert.

All concerts take place in the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton Village at 7:30 p.m.

Subscriptions have been selling very well, so be sure to get yours soon so you don't miss out. The amazingly low prices for these concerts are a result of generous funding by the Ontario Arts Council. The total for 3 concerts is \$50 for adults, \$25 for students, and \$125 for families. Contact Brenda Robinson at 705-457-2695 or brobinson@interhop.net for tickets.

For further details see our website: www.haliburtoncs.blogspot.com. Submitted by the Haliburton Concert Series

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RTOs ditch enforced tourism levy

Barbara Shaw
Special to the Echo

When the province was divided into 13 tourism regions there was no firm plan for sustainable future funding for the Regional Tourism Organizations (RTOs). In the early days of setting up each RTO, different funding models were discussed and a tourism levy looked like it might be the easiest way to collect dollars locally to fund the projects and operations of the RTO.

In our area, RTO 11, now named the Ontario Highlands Tourism Organization (OHTO), there was concern about using a levy.

Historically this one to three per cent levy has been added to roofed accommodation bills. In simpler language, if you run an inn or a guest house or hotel that has more than four rooms you would be expected to charge the fee, hand it back to OHTO and then those dollars would be used across the region for marketing and programming or experience development.

While this model works well in larger centres with many hotels to share the load, the OHTO is a region with few hard roofed accommodations. Our tourists stay with friends and family and use cottages or campgrounds.

The few who would have been asked to charge the levy would have been going into an already fiercely competitive tourism market with the new burden of charging their customers an additional three per cent.

So while a tourism levy is still an option that can be used in any of the RTOs, it will not be forced as a model of revenue collection by the province.

George Offshack is the president of the OHTO and he says this is good news.

He shared a letter sent from Minister of Tourism Culture and Sport Michael Chan.

In the letter Chan explains that the tourism levy is out and a local marketing fee is in.

"You've told us that a regional tourism levy will not be supported," Chan said. "Instead, we've heard that a local marketing fee concept would provide the industry with the necessary flexibility to take local factors into account and determine what works best at a local or regional level."

The province will still provide \$40 million in annual funding to be divided between the RTOs. The OHTO, according to Offshack, gets the smallest cut. Any additional funds need to be raised locally.

"Beginning in 2013-14, within the \$40 million support for tourism regions, RTOs will continue to receive a base and performance funding allocation," Chan explains in his letter. "Additionally, RTOs will be eligible to receive further support to facilitate partnerships within the region. As a result, most regions will see an increase in their annual funding. This partnership funding will allow regions to work more closely with destination marketing organizations, pan-provincial organizations and other industry partners to maximize the effectiveness of each of their investments."

Broken down, this means the OHTO will receive less money but that we will have the ability to raise funds locally and then the new funding model will allow these funds to be leveraged and used in different ways to maximize partnerships.

And while this is better than a tourism levy, operators are still going to have to pay up.

Offshack says the OHTO will have to figure out a plan and do it quickly if they want to stay competitive. The dollars are all about drawing tourists and their money to the area and ensuring that they have an excellent experience while they are here.

The OHTO can market but they also need to diligently continue working on packaging, customer service training and on our geology asset.

Offshack is positive about the idea of a destination marketing fee.

"You can only have one DMF [Destination Marketing Fund]," Offshack says, "So someone has to get it together to

figure out what to do for the DMF. It could be OHTO and if they don't then anyone else in the region could apply to the province to do the DMF."

Offshack says once the DMF is set up, operators would be asked to pay a fee based on a portion of their tourism based receipts.

If you're wondering if you or your business might have to pay, Offshack says it would be based on what kind of business code you use. If you use a tourism business code you might be asked to pay into the program.

"It's all fairly voluntary," Offshack says.

The way the program will run and be administered is totally up in the air and will be determined by the person who takes on the project.

"If we implement this and we start collecting the fee then suddenly a stakeholder has more of a say," Offshack says. "This is a good thing."

Offshack says Toronto had a successful program and Kingston does as well. Money raised locally is spent locally and tourism operators have continued to pay into the program because, according to Offshack, they think it's working.

And when this is considered as an alternative to a levy on hotel bills, Offshack thinks there is more benefit.

"I think this is good because we can get more people involved at a lower rate," he explained. "A DMF is private – it's our money."

So now, across the province, it's up to each RTO to figure out next steps and get their funding sources secured.

"I'm pushing the sense of expediency with the [OHTO] board," says Offshack. "We need to get on it and because it could be tough to get people to pay we'll have to show some good results."

Bottom line, according to Offshack, is the province needs to ensure the regions generate some revenue to manage their own costs.

"The regional tourism levy would be an embarrassing fail if they tried to get it passed," Offshack says. "This is a better option."



Carl croons for Community Living

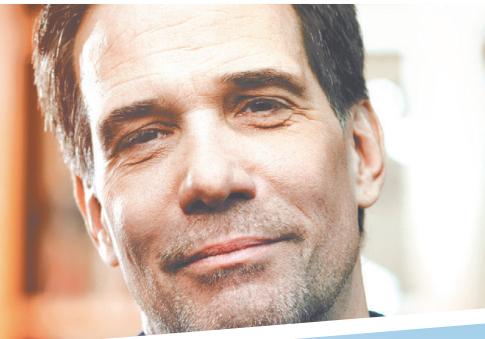
Local singer and songwriter Carl Dixon, far right, rocked out in support of Community Living on April 14 at Carnarvon Bowl. The concert was a fundraiser for the organization that helps those with intellectual disabilities integrate into the community. The event saw 75 tickets sold and about \$1,800 raised for the local group and included a performance from opening band Victoria Secrets, comprised of students from the Haliburton Adult Education Centre.



Jai DelaCruz of the band Victoria Secrets opened the Carl Dixon show in support of Community Living.

Photos by Tim Tofflemire

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The image shows the classic Ford oval logo in blue and white. Below the logo, the slogan "Go Further" is written in a bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the website "ontarioford.ca" is displayed in a smaller, regular font.

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Daughter holds fundraiser in memory of mother

Janet Smith

Special to the Echo

Almost everyone knows someone that has been affected by cancer. Three years ago my mother, Sylvia Smith of Haliburton, was diagnosed with this horrible disease, originating in her colon, then eventually spreading to her liver. After a year of treatments the cancer went into hiding, and for almost one year she breathed freely in the hopes that it would not rear its ugly horns again. Unfortunately it did, and this time it was terminal. Eventually it would take her life, but not without a fight, and this is where my mission began.

I decided to hold a fundraiser, and with a mixed martial arts gym at my disposal, I strayed from the usual fund-raising path. Whenever Mom received bad news at a doctor's appointment, my stress release usually consisted of punching a heavy bag in a high-cardio kickboxing class. A boxing themed fundraiser seemed like an appropriate choice, resulting in "Punch Out Cancer - The Day of 1,000 Punches".

For a lot of cancer patients, part of the fight consists of weekly or bi-weekly appointments for chemotherapy or radiation. For those suffering in rural communities, this can sometimes be a task in itself, having to travel hundreds of kilometres to larger cities for their treatments. With my siblings and I all living over 2.5 hours away, most of the trips my mom would take to Orillia or Toronto were not with close friends or family, but with the cancer patient transportation program. This program organizes volunteers to provide rides for cancer patients, driving them safely to their appointments on any given day of the week. If it weren't for this program it would have made life even more difficult for my mom, so supporting this program was important to me.

With my home in Kingston, but my heart in Haliburton, I

wanted to do something that would support both communities. I contacted the Kingston and Peterborough Canadian Cancer Society offices and spoke of my plan to hold a fundraiser with 50 per cent of the proceeds going to liver cancer research and the remaining 50 per cent going to the cancer patient transportation program. It was an emotional moment for me when Lindsay from the Peterborough CCS told me that \$2,500 would cover 8,000 kilometres in transportation for cancer patients, I was amazed and at the same time humbled as this program really helped our family.

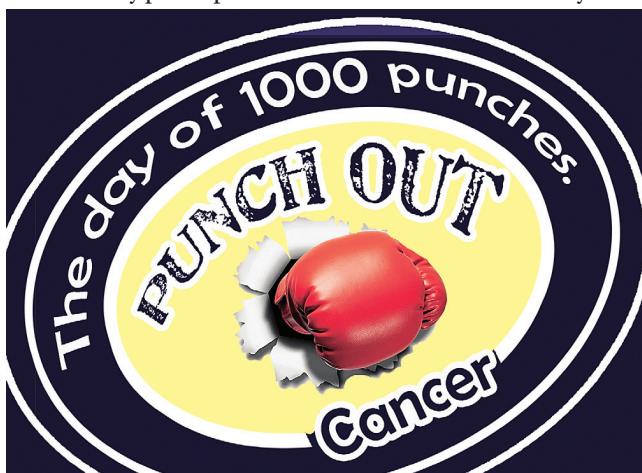
Inspired by my mom's strength and courage, it was time to plan this fundraiser and with the help of participants try my best to make it a success. I selected the date of May 5 setting a team goal of \$5,000 in pledges. The support has been amazing, family, friends, and our gym family have all embraced this fundraiser as much as I have. I never realized how many people have been affected by cancer; almost every participant has their own reason and story for

doing this fundraiser.

With just less than a month remaining we have already raised over \$5,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society. My wish was to have my mom at the event to encourage the participants. Unfortunately on March 24 she lost the fight; a heartbreaking moment, but I am now more determined than ever to make this a success. This fundraiser is my therapy. We were not able to save my mom, but the fight will go on in hopes of saving someone else's loved one.

If you would like to learn more about this fundraiser or are interested in participating in this fundraiser or would like to donate please visit: www.martialartsplanet.ca/punch-out-cancer, visit our Facebook page Punch Out Cancer or call 613-547-2822.

We would like to send a special thank you out to the Haliburton Access Centre and all the volunteers that drive for cancer patient transportation program. Your support was greatly appreciated.

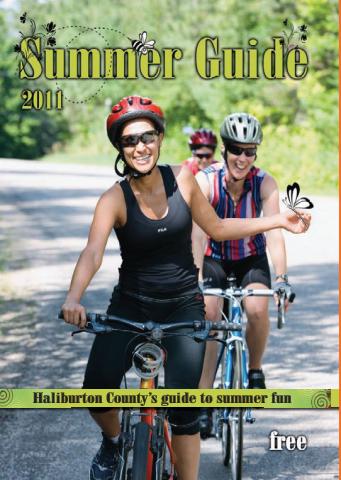


**On May 5th
Join us in the Fight Against
CANCER**



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Summer Guide 2011



Haliburton County's guide to summer fun **free**

and that means thousands of cottagers and visitors will soon be enjoying the Highlands.

This season, more than ever, you need to make those people your customers.

The Haliburton Highlands Summer Guide can help you do just that. **The 2012 edition of this popular publication will feature timely articles, information and listings of events throughout Haliburton County.**

Our readers and visitors refer to the Summer Guide again and again.

Last year thousands of copies of the guide were eagerly picked up and read by potential customers of your business.

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Vocal

Adjudicated by rising Canadian opera star **CHARLENE SANTONI**

Wednesday, April 18

10:25 am. - 11:40 am., 12:35 pm. - 3:20 pm.

Instrumental

Adjudicated by **BRANDON CHUI**, internationally experienced Violist

Thursday, April 19

9:15 am. - 11:35 am., 12:40 pm. - 2:05 pm., 5:00 pm. - 7:00 pm.

Piano

Adjudicated by renowned Canadian composer **NANCY TELFER**

Thursday, April 19

7:00 pm.

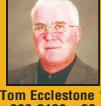
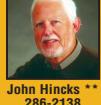
Friday, April 20

9:10 am. - 11:40 am., 12:35 pm. - 3:20 pm.

Festival Highlights Concert, Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m.

Admission \$7.50

For tickets, call Kit Pizze 705 457-1363

Drew Bishop **
457-2128 x 23Dagmar Boettcher **
489-9968Janice Brookes *
457-2128 x 22Gloria Carnochan * & Cindy Muenzel *
754 - 1932Mark Denney *
457-2128 x 30Deborah Deremo *
457-2128 x 58Tom Ecclestone *
286-2138 x 26Tom Gardner *
286-2138 x 30Lee Gauthier **
489-9968Ed Gibbons *
286-2138 x 28John Hincks **
286-2138Andrew Hodgson ***
286-2138 x 29**Brick Bungalow \$179,000**

- Lovely raised bungalow with walk-out bsmt
- Located just 5 minutes from Minden
- Screened room, propane fireplace, hardwood floors
- Recent oil furnace, tank and shingles.

Tom Gardner 286-2138 x 30

**Haliburton Lk Executive Cottage/Home \$749,000**

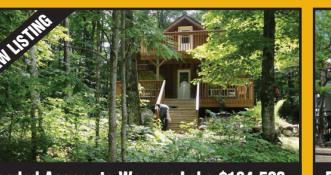
- Stunning open concept, vaulted ceilings, fireplace
- MF master with ensuite, walk-in closet & w/out
- Full fin bsmt; 5 BRs, 3 1/2 baths; Custom Kitchen
- Private flat lot with year round access

Drew Bishop 457-2128 x 23

**Brick Home \$259,000**

- Large brick home near Carnarvon on flat lot
- 3 bedrooms and 2 baths with hardwood
- Custom open concept kitchen with dining room
- Full finished basement with attached garage

Lee Gauthier 489-9968

**Deeded Access to Wenona Lake \$164,500**

- 3 bedroom chalet style cottage
- Semi-furnished & ready to enjoy
- large living rm and 2 walkout front decks
- relax by the woodstove at the days end

Greg Stamp 457-2128 x 28

**Excellent Commercial Location! \$340,000**

- Investment opportunity in growing community
- High traffic corner Bobcaygeon/Newcastle St
- 2 commercial & 1 lg residential unit
- Town water and sewer

Mark Denney 457-2128 x 30

**Minden Lake \$364,900**

- Year-round waterfront cottage or home
- 3BR plus full finished basement and bunkie
- Large lot with two lakefront shoreline areas
- Detached double garage - super value!

Susanne James & Andy Mosher 457-2128 x 33

**Haliburton \$208,900**

- 3 BR home, large lot a great fenced backyard
- windows 2009, front deck 2008, hardwood floors
- walkout finished bsmt garage screened porch
- BEST PART- Deeded access to Kashagawigamog Lake

Anne Moulton 286-2138 x 24

**Country Retreat! \$278,900**

- 5 acres of privacy overlooking wetlands
- Immaculate 2 bedroom house, full walkout bsmt
- Oversized double garage/shop with basement
- 2 charming guest cabins for overflow

Kim Stamp 457-2128 x 28

**Redstone Family Cottage \$509,000**

- 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, direct waterfront
- Family room with walkout, gradual beach
- Extensive decking, furnished, good privacy
- Winterized, 20 min to Sir Sams, beautiful

Tom Ecclestone 286-2138 x 26

**5 Lake Kashagawigamog Chain \$365,000**

- 254 ft. frontage, well treed, great privacy
- Gently sloping lot, miles of boating
- Super location, minutes to town
- Old log cottage with lots of charm

John Hincks 286-2138 x 50

**Kennisis Riverfront \$259,000**

- 400 feet clear clean sand bottom river
- Kayak or canoe into Halls Lake
- 2000 s.f., 3 baths, 2 car insulated garage
- Sled shed, workshop with 220

Dagmar Boettcher 489-9968

**Haliburton Income Property \$139,000**

- Great Investment opportunity
- Good downtown location, close to everything
- Lovely 2 bedroom; full unfinished bsmt
- Many recent upgrades!

Andrew Hodgson 286-2138

**3 Lake Chain! \$219,000**

- 3 bed, 4 season cottage on a 3 lake chain
- Level lot, easy year round access.
- Sand shoreline with large dock
- Partial basement with laundry facilities

David Lee 286-2138 x 27

**Opportunity on Kennisis Lake \$297,000**

- 3 season starter/14x20 insulated cabin
- Deep for boats/small area sand entry
- Handyman op to increase value, S exp

Gloria Carnochan & Cindy Muenzel 754-1932

**Kashagawigamog Lake 209,000**

- Miles of boating on 5 lake chain,
- Boathouse at the sand shoreline
- Year round access
- Rustic 600 square foot cottage

Karen Nimigon 457-2128 x 29

**Gull Lake \$549,900**

- fully winterized 3 bedroom cottage
- large 150' x 2 acre lot
- fantastic sand beach
- miles of boating pleasure

Tom Wilkinson 286-2138 x 25

**Stormy Lake \$499,000**

- 3 bdrm. 2300 sq. ft. Rural Retreat on level lot
- +1 acre of superb privacy, with easy yr. rnd. access
- 165 ft. panoramic & picturesque south-west view
- Hardwood floors, sunroom, lg. lakeside decks

Deborah Deremo 457-2128 x 58

**Pine Lake \$374,900**

- 3 bdmr year-round cottage/home on 3-lake chain
- 126 feet of waterfront with sunset views
- many upgrades, full basement
- close to all amenities

Andrea Wilson 457-2128 x 25

**Handy Man Project \$79,900**

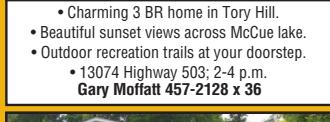
- Great potential for the handyman
- 1/2 acre quiet country lot
- Close to Haliburton or Minden
- Great garage with loft

Erin Nicholls 457-2128 x 34

**Rental Potential Haliburton \$227,400**

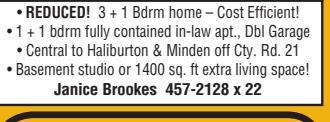
- all brick bungalow with a stunning private lot
- upper flr 2 BR apt. fully equipped \$1175 mthly
- lower flr 1 BR fully equipped \$875 mthly
- new roof drilled well town sewers 200 amp service.

Denise LeBlanc 286-2138 x 23

**Open House Sunday! \$169,900**

- Charming 3 BR home in Tory Hill.
- Beautiful sunset views across McCue lake.
- Outdoor recreation trails at your doorstep.
- 13074 Highway 503; 2-4 p.m.

Gary Moffat 457-2128 x 36

**Home-In-law-Studio! \$299,000**

- REDUCED! 3 + 1 Bdrm home - Cost Efficient!
- 1 + 1 bdrm fully contained in-law apt., Dbl Garage
- Central to Haliburton & Minden off Cty. Rd. 21
- Basement studio or 1400 sq. ft extra living space!

Janice Brookes 457-2128 x 22

**Long Lake \$619,900**

- Newer Construction, Private Lot
- 3 Bedrooms/2 Baths
- Full walk-out Basement
- 210' Frontage, Southern Exposure

Melanie Vigrass 286-2138 x 32

**Anson Street 144,000**

- 3 BR bung on a level lot walking to downtown
- New roof & windows '08 new ceramic and laminate
- The kitchen/family/dining rms face the sunny south
- Great potential here priced to sell!

Melanie Vigrass 286-2138 x 32

**Trooper Lake Cottage \$324,900**

- Waterfront Cottage - Southern Exposure
- 3 Bedrooms & Bunkie - Many upgrades
- New Kitchen & New Roof In 2009
- Sandy Shoreline, all day sun... Come and See!

Elizabeth Thompson 457-2128 x 52

**5 Lake Chain! \$479,000**

- Waterfront home with easy year round access
- Full finished basement with w/o
- Maintenance free siding
- Amazing view and close to town

Ed Gibbons 286-2138 x 28

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**Haliburton-by-the-Lake \$238,500**

- 4 Bedrooms & 3 Baths; over 3000 sqft.
- Huge 2 car garage; unfin bsmr; MF laundry
- Open concept design with Fireplace & walk out
- Includes common area park by the lake

Wilfred VanLieshout - 457-2128 x 27

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- **Minden (705) 286-2138**

- **Carnarvon (705) 489-9968**
- **Kennisis/Redstone (705) 754-1932**

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286-2138 x 25Andrea Wilson **
457-2128 x 25

Reads of the week



Book of the Week:

The High Road by Terry Fallis

If you read *The Best Laid Plans*, you'll be eager to see what comes next for Canada's favourite curmudgeon, Angus McClintock. In *The High Road*, he is about to fight an uphill battle against "Flamethrower" Fox, a Conservative notorious for his dirty tactics. Angus and his campaign manager Daniel decide to take "the high road" and manage to turn the election into a hilarious, nail-biting race to the top. HCPL has *The High Road* available in both print and e-book formats, and we even have an eight-copy book club set available for this title. Author Terry Fallis will be the featured guest at the Friends of the Library's seventh annual Book Gala this November — so read up in preparation for his visit!

Junior Book of the Week:

Teen Title

The Pregnancy Project by Gaby Rodriguez

Growing up, Gaby Rodriguez was often told she would end up a teen mom because her mother and her older sisters had gotten pregnant as teenagers. Gaby, however, had ambitions that didn't include teen motherhood. But she wondered: how would she be treated if she "lived down" to others' expectations? In spite of the sparkling reputation that Gaby worked hard to forge, would society still consider her just another pregnant teen statistic with

no future? These questions sparked Gaby's school project: faking her own pregnancy as a high school senior to see how her family, friends, and community would react. What she learned changed her life forever, and made international headlines in the process. This thought-provoking true story can be reserved at your library.

Local Celebrity Read:

Tammy Rea of Highlands Media Arts recently finished

On Writing by Stephen King, which is described by the publisher as "part memoir, part master class by one of the bestselling authors of all time." This book is a revealing and practical view of the writer's craft, comprising what King believes to be the basic tools of the trade every writer must have.

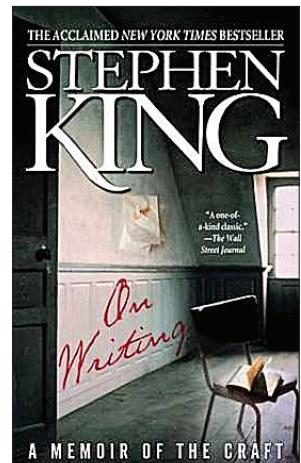
"I have always heard that this book was a must-read ... and then I found it at the 4Cs Lily Ann" says Rea. "I enjoyed Stephen King's stories about being a child and growing up without a father, and without TV. It is a book I would recommend to anyone who writes, or to anyone who reads books, Stephen King or not!"

On a side note, Rea belongs to a book club called "The Coaster Club," a group which reads a wide variety of books. "Our book club just read *Northern Light* by Roy MacGregor, which is about Tom Thomson," says Rea. "It was a very timely read because Those Other Movies [Haliburton's Film Circuit group], is hosting Doc Days, a documentary film festival, on Saturday, May 5 and one of the movies is *The West Wind*. It is a definitive documentary about Tom Thomson. The researcher for the movie will be here in Haliburton to speak at the film festival about how she did the research. It's fascinating."

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News & Events:

Yoga at the Dysart branch continues! Lynda Shadbolt will be running a "Chair Yoga" class each Wednesday in April from noon to 1 p.m. — great for people with limited mobility and for those who simply want to get in a good stretch during their lunch hour. Entrance is by donation to the Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library. For more information visit www.haliburtonyoga.com/haliburtonyoga/Library_Yoga.html.



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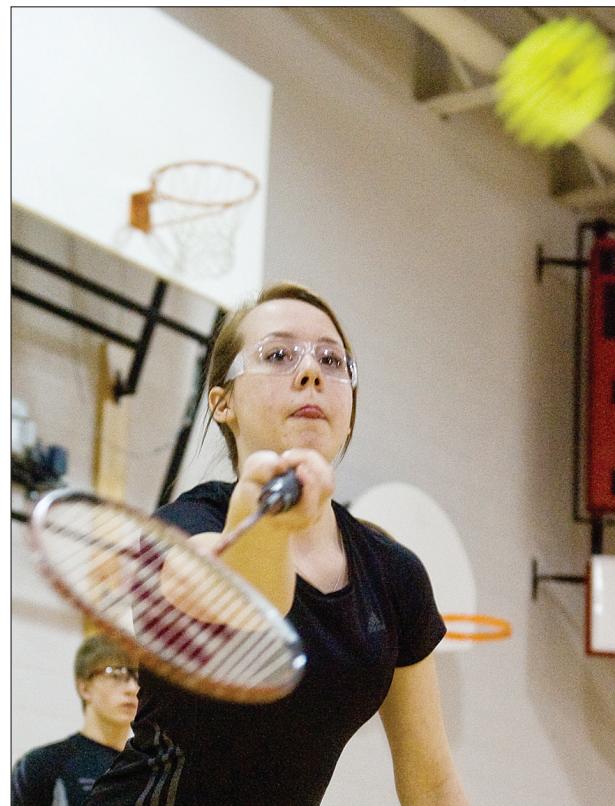
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Sports



Clockwise, from left, Red Hawks senior badminton player Jessica Duchene, closest, lunges for a shot with doubles teammate Sandy Griffith looking on; Tammy Everitt, closest, lunges for a shot; Bin Chun picks up a shot while playing with doubles partner Jaimie Dack; Micheal Nelson, closest, lunges for a shot with doubles teammate Tammy Everitt looking on during the Kawartha finals at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School on Wednesday, April 11. Eleven members of the team qualified with the top four in each category advancing to the Central Ontario Secondary School Athletics championships at Bayside Secondary School on Tuesday, April 17.



Photos by Darren Lum



Reaching for COSSA

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

The Haliburton Highlands Secondary School senior badminton team is sending 11 members to the Central Ontario Secondary School Athletics championships at Bayside Secondary School on Tuesday, April 17.

The doubles team of Andrew Murray and Brett Yake led the way with a first place at the Red Hawks hosted Kawartha championships on Wednesday, April 10.

Also advancing are mixed doubles team of Jaimie Dack and Bin Chun (second

place); singles player Darcy Schmidt (second); girls' doubles Grace Diezel and Jessica Bishop (second); boys' doubles Tanner Ballantyne and Tanner Hamilton (third place) and mixed girls' Jessica Duchene and Sandy Griffith (third place).

Mixed doubles team Tammy Everitt and Micheal Nelson did not advance.

Junior achievement

Singles junior player Tom Paul is the lone qualifier, earning a fourth place at the Kawartha final at Campbellford District High School.

Girls' tournament marked by passion and energy

Photos by Riley Maracle
Special to the Echo

The Minden Car Quest Highland Storm Bantam B girls travelled to Mississauga this past weekend to take part in their first Ontario Women's Hockey Association Provincial Championship. The girls were in a pool with Sudbury, Lucan-Irish and Etobicoke.

The first game against Sudbury was a hard fought nail-biter. The Storm girls had to get the rust off quickly, having not played a game in over a month. Sudbury scored the lone goal marker of the game mid-way through the first period off a poor clearing attempt during the penalty kill, with the opposing D shooting a puck through a maze of players and finding its way through the five-hole and into the back of the net.

They battled the talented Lady Wolves tirelessly every shift but could not find the net to even the score. Even with the goalie pulled late in the game, the Storm girls could not find a way to put one past the Sudbury net-minder.

The game was one of the best contests of the year but the final score was 1-0 in favour of the opposition. A wonderful first game tourney (one of our best games all year) effort where a lot of energy was left on the ice in the heated contest.

The next game, Saturday night, the Minden Car Quest Bantam Bs took on Lucan-Irish. Again, the girls worked hard and relentlessly the entire game, pushing their opponents every shift of the game. Lucan-Irish jumped out to an early 1-0 lead, but the Storm squad did not give up.

Even after a late Lucan-Irish goal in the second period, the girls never quit. Sydney Feir finished off a nice give and go to draw close 2-1 in the third period, but the Lucan-Irish squad capitalized on another missed clearing opportunity and put one past Connor Marsden to make the score 3-1; also the final score.

The two losses made the Storm girls' third game of the tourney on Saturday a spoiler game against Etobicoke Dolphins - who had tied Sudbury in their second game. Etobicoke proved to be another strong squad pushing the Storm girls to dig deep to take on their talented opponents. Etobicoke scored a fluky early in the first period that dipped, skipped and bounced its way finding the back of the net.

With a little wind taken out of their sails, the girls fought back firing a barrage of pucks at the Etobicoke net-minder. Erin Little made a nice rush early in the third period to tie game at 1-1. The Dolphins never quit and late in the third period snuck in a power play marker off another failed clearing attempt by the Storm squad. Final score 2-1.

Many scoring chances lost was the drawback of the weekend. But solid goaltending by Connor Marsden kept every game close. The girls were in every game but could not muster enough scoring punch to move them into the final 12 teams in the Ontario Championship with continued play on Sunday.



Bantam B girls' team: back row from left, Kelsey Maracle, Brynn Myers, Nicole Black, Cassidy Garbutt, Erica Carmount, Jamie Little, Kenndal Marsden and Erin Little. Front row from left, Madison Allore, Sydney Feir, Madison Billings and Connor Marsden.

The weekend was a true play-off battle where our Storm girls showed their passion for the game in tightly checked and fast paced, high energy games. Our "Don Cherry muckers" worked tirelessly and relentlessly all weekend trying to extend their hockey season.

All in all, the season was an exciting one with anticipation for next year!

Registration is in May but remember the off-season expectations of strengthening and conditioning as we move into the Midget ranks next year.

The entire team, players and staff, and parents, would like to thank our sponsor, Minden Car Quest for your wonderful support all year! We truly appreciate everything you have helped us with.

Submitted by Dan Marsden



Cassidy Garbutt lines up for the face-off against the Sudbury Lady Wolves during the Bantam B girls' all-Ontario tournament on the weekend of April 14. Madison Billings can be seen behind.

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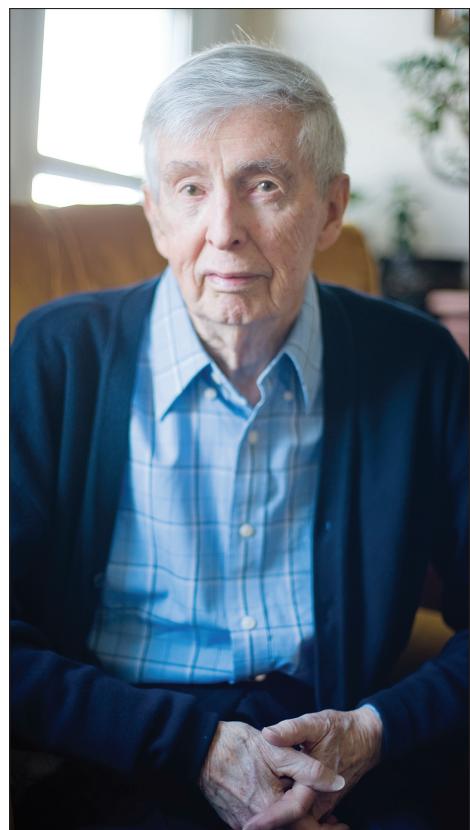
An active mind is a healthy one

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

He just cannot imagine a life without an activity.

It's an apt description for the 91-year-old Bruce Armstrong, who started Haliburton's first Senior Games for district 11 (plus 55 years) with Bruce Henry in 1985.

Greeted at his door, Armstrong has the idyllic grandfather's smile, warm and glowing like the morning sun, shining into his living room with family photos and heirlooms placed with purpose and care at his Parklane Apartment.



Darren Lum Staff

Bruce Armstrong, 91, encourages other seniors to be active rather than let time drag by.

He has always held physical and mental activity in high regard. This has been true ever since he was a child, growing up on a Minesing farm where there was little to do except skate and play hockey.

This lifestyle carried him into his retirement here and motivated him to start the athletic events for Haliburton, acting as a qualifier for the provincial summer games, formerly known as Actifest.

"My idea is to keep busy and keep out of the hospital and keep out of the nursing home and make friends. There are a lot of nice people out there," he said. "When you get into the retirement age you meet people from all parts of life and activities. They all have something to give you and you have something to give them."

There were 33 athletes on that first team that went to Kitchener for the first Actifest in 1986. It included Armstrong with a group from Muskoka, completing the district 11 team.

His Actifest highlights include a meeting with former prime minister Brian Mulroney's wife Mila and daughter Caroline there, including a second place for cribbage in Perth. Other residents from the area were Ev Stata, Elva Robinson, Helen Henderson, Gladys Fujar, Lenore Gillespie, Marjorie Peel, Joyce and Jack Burtsch and Norma Crewson that competed in 1985 and 1986. The Haliburton athletes distinguished themselves from the other 1,200 athletes with a tartan vest.

The first Haliburton games limited events to what was included in the Actifest competition, which was facilitated by the Older Adults Centre Association of Ontario.

Retired from a long career with Ontario Hydro, the military and radio work, Armstrong said athletics and card playing have always been part of his life.

He's been an active member competing for district 11 in bridge, cribbage and bowling to name a few of his events.

Since surpassing his "senior years," he has limited himself to card playing and is content with the next phase of his life, whatever it is.

"People say they are seniors when they are 55. What are seniors when they are in their 90s?" he said, smiling. "That's a good question."

He used to be a regular curler, horseshoe thrower and lawn bowling, but now just plays bridge up to four times a week.

The competitive Armstrong, who has a philosophical approach, hopes to represent the district in bridge and cribbage this year.

Success in card playing isn't so much what you did or didn't do, as it is left mostly to chance, he said, describing a recent card game win as "my day."

"Smile at lady luck and she'll smile back the odd time," he said. "It's amazing. One day to another. You can't understand how one day is so good and the next day is so bad."

Phone Doug McIntosh 705-489-3850 immediately about participation in the Haliburton Senior Games (+55) since the April 15 deadline to register has passed.

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Curler comments on awards

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

A Red Hawks alumnus couldn't be more grateful after being given two awards from his curling team.

Connor Duhaime, who earned distinction from his school, the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT), accepted the Most Valuable Player and Leadership awards earlier this month. He was excited to have been on the school's first curling team.

"It was great to have a university team to play on. We had a really good inaugural season; I was very impressed with how we performed in our first year as a varsity team," he said. "It was good to see that we were competitive with the other universities in the league. We had strong showings in every event we entered this season and hope to improve on it next year. After having such an awesome high school curling career it is exciting to have the university curling to branch into. It is a really good opportunity to play at a competitive level during the transition into men's curling."

Duhaime's record includes an undefeated record at the

“

It is encouraging to know that people back home from Haliburton County are following my achievements and are cheering me on along the way.

— Connor Duhaime

Laurier Invitational bonspiel and a spot at the Ontario University Athletics championships. He played former high school teammates Jake Walker and Ed Cyr, both playing for Waterloo University. The third year energy systems engineering program student still remembers and is appreciative to Haliburton.

"It is encouraging to know that people back home from Haliburton County are following my achievements and are cheering me on along the way," he said.



Junior curlers finish season

After a long season of playing and practising, the Haliburton Junior Curling Team consisting of skip Victoria Hawley, vice Chris Draper, second Sam Little, lead Jaylen Campbell and coaches Ron Draper and Bob MacNaull represented the Haliburton Curling Club and J.D. Hodgson School with great confidence and success. Although they fell just short of the playoffs, a tie decided their fate to advance. Congratulations to the kids and thanks to all who helped them to achieve to this level of competition./Photo submitted

Tips for buying pre-owned cars still relevant today

Glen Woodcock
QMI Agency

My friend Ron Good has been thinning out his collection of vintage automotive paper and recently gave me some 50- to 60-year old magazines.

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possibility of severe body damage, or the frame may be cracked, out of line, or broken.

4. Open the hood. Before you start the engine, check the oil on the dipstick. If it is perceptibly thicker than the cold oil in your own car, very likely someone is trying to quiet down a badly worn engine.

5. Get into the car and, with the ignition off, work the starter four or five times. If it grinds or sticks (with a fully charged battery) the starter gear is in poor shape.

6. Start the engine now and keep an ear cocked for unusual noises while it is warming up.

7. Meanwhile, try all the seats for broken springs, or for "dead spots" where springs have been tied down.

8. Test the brakes by keeping heavy pressure on the pedal for a minute or two. If it sinks slowly to the floor, the hydraulic system leaks and needs a rather costly repair to be made safe.

9. Next, push down the clutch pedal with your foot or with one or two fingers. There should be at least an inch of play before resistance increases. If there is none at all, it means the clutch is worn; it may have become damaged by slipping.

10. Does the clutch slip now? Set the hand brake hard, engage high gear and let the clutch pedal up slowly, feeding gas to keep the engine going. When the clutch pedal is all the way up, the engine should stall at once if the clutch holds properly.

11. Now listen carefully to the engine. Make it run steadily (if it will), but not very fast; any heavy clicking or knocking is bad, and noises that sound like a wandering wood-pecker at work are worse. What are they - piston slap, loose piston pins, connecting rods or camshaft bearings? Let somebody else pay the bills for finding out and for the repairs that will be costly.

12. Finally, race the engine momentarily several times and watch the exhaust for billows of blue (not grey or black) smoke. If they appear, the car is an oil burner. If it's a good car in other respects it may be worth the ring job that will be needed soon.

If you like what you've seen and heard so far on these static tests, then it's time for a test drive. Next, we'll feature *Consumer Reports'* 58-year-old tips for what to watch for on the road test.

For more autonews, visit autonet.ca

Hours extended for water testing drop-off locations

Putting your well water to the test is easier with the arrival of warmer weather.

Private well owners in Haliburton County who want to have their well water tested now have extended hours to drop off their samples at locations in Minden and Wilberforce.

The drop-off location in Haliburton Village still remains open four days per week.

"If you live in a home that is on a municipal water supply, you do not need to test the water as the municipality tests regularly for bacteria," says Atul Jain, manager of environmental health with the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit. "However, if you get your water supply from a private well, you need to test the water on a regular basis."

During the spring and summer months, local residents can drop off their well water samples as follows:

- In Haliburton Village at the health unit office (191 Highland St., Unit 301) from 8:30 am to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday.

- In Wilberforce at the Highlands East municipal office from 9 a.m. to noon on Monday and Wednesday.

- In Minden at the Minden library branch (176 Bobcaygeon Rd.) from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday.

The well water-testing program is provided free-of-charge by the health unit to private well owners who want to have their drinking water tested for bacteria such as E.coli.

The health unit recommends testing well water at least three times per year, including the spring.

"Melting snow and increased



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amounts of rainfall in the spring can create the potential for flooding," Jain notes.

"Your drinking water supply could become contaminated if the well head is or has been submerged under water. That's why, especially in the spring, it is important to put your well water to the test to ensure it is safe for you and your family."

Water-testing bottles and kits are available at each of the three water sample drop-off locations in Haliburton County.

Local residents can return the filled water bottle with completed forms, and the health unit will forward the samples to the provincial lab in Peterborough for testing. Private well owners can have the lab results mailed back to them in a few days, or can call a toll-free phone number to get the results sooner.

Public health inspectors with the health unit are available to assist local well owners in understanding their test results and making suggestions to correct any problems.

They can be reached by calling the health unit office in Haliburton at 705-457-1391.

Internet not expected for Haliburton until next summer

Original timeline changed from this fall to summer 2013

Angelica Blenich

Staff reporter

Haliburton County residents will have to wait longer than anticipated before they receive high-speed Internet.

A recent media release issued by the Eastern Ontario Regional Network stated a local access contract had been awarded to Bell Aliant by the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus, enabling more than 24,000 homes and businesses with improved Internet connectivity.

However, unlike a previous release issued by EORN indicating Internet would be available by fall of 2012, the recent statement said broadband will be up and running by summer 2013.

The change is the result of a typographical error and not a disruption in the project's timeline, said Farah Tayabali, communications support specialist for the project.

The contract will include portions of Haliburton County and part of Peterborough County, according to the release.

This is the sixth of several contracts awarded to complete the project and the error over the project's timeline may have come from confusion over details of the Haliburton County contract, said Tayabali.

"I think it's a consequence of the fact there were several contracts all signed that have slightly different timelines," she said.

The project is being funded by federal, provincial and municipal governments and private sector investment and totals \$170 million.

EORN is a not-for-profit organization established by the EOWC to manage all contracts awarded as part of the project.

For more information visit www.eorn.ca.

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Students fast for fundraiser with 30-hour Famine

Christina Shaw
Co-op student

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School has hosted the annual 30-hour Famine for the past six years. In these years they have raised money for food, child safety and poverty reduction. 30-hour famine starts at 4 p.m. on April 23 and goes until April 24 at 10 p.m. This year, all the money raised is going to World Vision so it can bring clean water to Democratic Republic of Congo, Africa.

This event isn't just to support places outside of our community. The participants of the famine are going out at 4 p.m. on April 24 to collect food donations from the community. All the collections will be given to the 4Cs Food Bank. The community has played a huge supportive role in the food drive every year and the students hope this support will continue.

The 30-hour Famine will also be hosting a fun fair. This allows parents that have students in Stuart Baker Elementary School to have a night off. They just drop off their kids at 5:30 p.m. at the high school and pick them up at 7:30 p.m. Kids must be registered before April 20. There will be a lot of activities for the kids such as soccer, arts and crafts and more.

For the participants, the leaders of the famine are planning of events for them as well. There will be a movie in the theatre, games to play, a big talent show and much more. After 10 p.m. there will be a big supper for all the participants and leaders.

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Cuts to CAP put burden on municipalities

 Federal government pulls plug on funding for free public Internet access

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

Cuts Industry Canada is making to the Community Access Program (CAP) will have effects for Haliburton County, although just what those will be is not yet clear.

CAP provides, among other services, free public Internet access at libraries and other buildings.

"There's two parts to the CAP, one is the Youth Initiative and that's how we're able to hire the young people that come in for four months and work contracts," said Haliburton County Public Library CEO Bessie Sullivan, explaining this part of the funding is being maintained. "We will still be able to give three to five people work every year."

What is being cut is the electronics side of the program, but it remains unclear at this point what that will look like in the county.

"We just got the news last week and have not fully discussed the implications of the elimination of the funding," treasurer Laura Janke told the paper in an email, adding the first discussions about the cuts would likely take place at Wednesday's finance committee meeting.

Janke said before operational changes that may have to occur can be identified by staff, they must get reaction from councillors and members of the library board.

Minden Hills Deputy-reeve Cheryl Murdoch is county council's liaison on the library board.

"The only other source of funding will be the municipalities and the county," Murdoch said, adding that the program is a valuable one. "Personally, when I'm in the libraries around the county, there's not a time I'm there

when [the CAP computers] are not being used."

Noting that budgets at the lower- and upper-tier levels for 2012 have been "pretty much signed, sealed and delivered," Murdoch said the funding cut was bound to evoke discussion.



Personally, when I'm in the libraries around the county, there's not a time I'm there when the CAP computers are not being used.

— Cheryl Murdoch
Minden Hills Deputy-reeve

"In order for the CAP to continue, it'll have to be at the municipalities' and county's expense and I don't even know at this stage in the game what that expense would be."

Sullivan said some juggling may be required, but she hopes to maintain free Internet access.

"I don't want to stop providing that service," she said, adding that an equipment replacement plan is something the library board has talked about implementing.

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The cougar question resurfaces

Steve Galea
Special to the Echo

Cougars roam Ontario's landscape. That's the conclusion Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) senior research scientist Rick Rosatte reached in a recent article written for *The Canadian Field-Naturalist*, published in March.

Starting in 2006, Rosatte and a network of 89 MNR biologists and wildlife technicians gathered and evaluated cougar reports submitted to MNR offices from 1991 to 2010. After all was said and done, they came out with 497 credible pieces of evidence to support the belief that cougars exist in the province. Of that, 295 pieces were gathered in the region defined as southeastern Ontario, an area that includes Haliburton County.

That evidence was divided into Class 1, 2 and 3 categories.

The first consists of 21 confirmed pieces of cougar scat, hair, DNA, tracks or photographs. This is supported by 13 pieces of Class 2 evidence, defined as sightings by qualified observers such as MNR biologists.

Add to that sightings by unqualified individuals, those cougar reports we all hear repeated by friends and acquaintances every now and again across the county. There were literally thousands of these, but Rosatte and researchers felt only 463 were credible – and these were

categorized as Class 3 evidence. In many cases, the people reporting were interviewed by Rosatte before being deemed credible.

Rosatte and company also placed trail cameras across the province, where cougar sightings had been reported. He and his team eventually examined 154,736 photos taken in more than 17,000 camera nights between April 2008 and December 2010.

Interestingly, these did not yield a single definitive photo of a cougar, although one infrared image was deemed "morphologically similar."

Despite this, Rosatte feels that the Class 1 and 2 evidence is enough to confirm their existence in the province. The southeastern zone, of which we are part, yielded eight pieces of Class 1 and nine pieces of Class 2 evidence between 1991 to 2010.

When it comes to Class 3 evidence, the report acknowledges that though deemed credible, and though those reporting it truly believe they saw a cougar, much of it could still be attributed to misidentification. Fishers, small bear cubs, lynx and bobcats were all cited as animals that have been misidentified as cougars by witnesses.

"Look at these things in the wrong light and wrong angle and misidentification is possible," he said.

The southeastern zone provided 278 of the 463 Class 3 sightings. Rosatte suggests that the higher proportion of southern sightings are probably a result of more people

and roads in these areas than in regions further north. He also notes that high numbers of sighting in an area do not necessarily mean high cougar numbers as these animals tend to be solitary and cover a lot of ground. Interestingly, he noted that after media stories on cougars, reported cougar sightings would often increase.

When asked about local cougars, Minden MNR area biologist Gerry Moraal said that, "We are still getting the odd report but nothing is verified around here."

Rosatte's study answered whether cougars exist in the province, but the question regarding their origins still remains unknown. The report speculates that any cougar in Ontario could either be wild or a formerly captive animal. (It is estimated that several hundred cougars are kept as pets or zoo exhibits in the province.)

Wild cougars, Rosatte theorizes, could be migrants from other areas or remnants of a previously thought extirpated native population. He also says the evidence could come from released or escaped captive animals, their offspring or a genetic mix of wild and captive animals.

Furthermore, the article suggests that southern cougars are more likely from captive stock and northern animals more likely western immigrants.

Cougars were considered extirpated from eastern North America in the 1940s. They were classified as an endangered species in Ontario in 2010 due to increased evidence of their existence.

Recording subsidies available for local musicians

The Haliburton County Folk Society, with support from the Haliburton County Development Corporation, has 20 recording subsidies for \$100 each available to Haliburton County residents and/or members of the Haliburton County Folk Society. This initiative was created to give local musicians, both young and old, an opportunity to professionally record a piece of original material to help promote and elevate their musical profile.

Applicants must be a Haliburton County resident and/or a current member of the Haliburton County Folk Society.

Young musicians with original material as well as adult art-

ists are encouraged to apply. The application form must be returned to the folk society on or before the deadline of June 30 and permission be given to use the recorded work for a compilation CD. The first 20 qualifying applications returned to the folk society will be awarded the subsidy.

This project is in partnership with Quantum Entertainment Studio in West Guilford who has generously offered a reduced recording rate in co-operation with this initiative. Individual musicians will be given the opportunity to professionally record their work and receive a final product that can be used for local radio play, as a marketable mp3, or may be chosen to represent the next Haliburton County Folk Society compilation CD of local artists.

Application forms are available on the Haliburton County Folk Society website at www.haliburtonfolk.com or by email

at info@haliburtonfolk.com.

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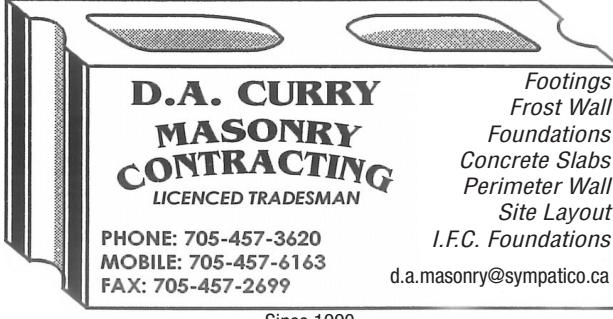
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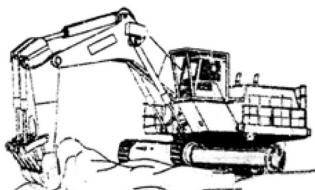
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Let's make music

Wilberforce Elementary School has a new drum kit! It will be added to the WES music program and was funded by Trillium Lakelands District School Board. It is a student quality kit, replacing an older unusable set. Grade 7/8 students from Wilberforce Elementary will use this as part of their band program. Students were very excited to see the new kit, asking "is this a real kit, like the rock stars use?"

"The Wilberforce School is very fortunate to have received funds from the board to replace an old drum set with a new drum set. I would like to thank Reuben for volunteering his time to help with our Grade 7/8 music program. With Reuben's enthusiasm, the students' willingness to learn and the board giving us some money to build up our instrument selection, we definitely have a winning combination. I know that the students are very excited to have a new piece of equipment to use now and for many years to come," Gord



This new drum kit was purchased by the school board for Wilberforce Elementary School. It will enhance the music program there.

Wood, principal of WES said.

"As trustee of Haliburton County, I am very pleased that WES has a new set of drums. TLDSB is proud to continue to

enhance the music program of WES so all students can reach to maximize their potential, Gary Brohman, trustee.

Submitted by Reuben Maughan

Free prenatal classes starting in May

It is not just cottagers who are returning to the Highlands in May. Prenatal classes are too. The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit is again offering its popular Healthy Beginnings: Prenatal Classes in Haliburton County during the month of May. The free classes, which are ideal for expectant parents preparing for the arrival of their

babies, will run over four evening sessions. With only a few spaces left in the prenatal classes, the health unit encourages people to register right away. To book your spot in the class or find more information, contact the health unit at 705-457-1391 or toll-free at 1-866-888-4577. You can also email info@nkpr.on.ca for more details.

A similar prenatal class was offered in March, and due to strong demand, the health unit is again running the prenatal classes in May.

"We're glad to be back in Haliburton County and responding to the tremendous interest in these classes," says Tracey Westlake, a family health nurse with the HKPR District Health Unit. "For parents-to-be, the class is a great way to learn what to expect during pregnancy and birth, and afterwards when you take your baby home from the hospital."

The prenatal classes provide information on labour and delivery, infant care and safety, feeding the baby and adjusting to life after the baby is born. Each participant in the class will receive a free copy of the Healthy Beginnings pregnancy guidebook, as well as information about health unit services and programs that support healthy families. Westlake finds the group environment of the prenatal class very beneficial to learning. "When you attend these classes, you realize you are not alone," she says. "Many of the questions and concerns you have may also be shared by others, and frequently you will form new friendships with other expectant parents."

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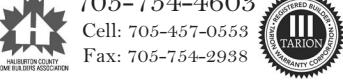
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Wildlife in your backyard

Have a great nature shot? Send it to jwatt@haliburtonecho.ca. The bigger the file size the bigger we can print it.



Julie Robertson captured a picture of this bear in August.



Barbara Bader of Glamor Lake took a photo of two toms strutting their stuff.



Kim and Derrell Stamp encountered a moose at a small pond on Blairhampton Road on Good Friday.



Matthew Linton took a picture of bald eagles, golden eagles and ravens finishing off a wolf kill on drag Lake.



Krist Ommen captured a photo of a bald eagle near Eagle Lake.



Joe Davis snapped this photo of turkeys.

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Studio Tour celebrates 25 years with exhibition

Transitions: Haliburton County Studio Tour
25th Anniversary Exhibition
May 5 to June 16
Meet the Artists at a Reception: Saturday, May 5 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Twenty-five years - a lifetime, a good time, an artful time! Haliburton County Studio Tour celebrates its 25th anniversary with a group exhibition at Rails End that opens Saturday, May 5.

Titled "Transitions," this exhibition will feature new works by long time members, new studios and even some familiar names from the past.

In 1988, there were 34 artists on the tour and they were over the moon when 190 visitors showed up (in total)!

A far cry from these days when the tour attracts thousands, creates a few traffic jams, and is widely recognized as an important contributor to the local economy and Halib-

burton's vibrant arts community.

Barbara Joy Peel, Rickie Woods, Susan and Michael Butz, Helen Newton, Judy and Gary Chapman, and Charles O'Neil.

Recognize those names?

These movers and shakers were on the first studio tour and remain to this day.

Rails End curator Laurie Jones remarks "These artists were innovators back in the '80s, now we take it for granted that tours are part of rural art studio practice, but it's got to be a challenge to keep growing artistically while keeping up with production for that once-a-year blitz. It will be interesting to see what the artists contribute to the exhibition since it's a chance for them to shine and show the public their creativity, outside the studio, in a professional gallery setting."

The core organizers of the exhibition are Laura Trach, Annette Blady Van Mil and Jane Selbie, who have worked

tirelessly for the past six months to co-ordinate the exhibition's elements. "Transitions" includes 40 artists from past and present including three of the newest members; Artech Studios and Two Sisters Studio and Guest Artist, Tiffany Howe.

Planned events include an opening reception on Saturday May 5 from 2 to 4 p.m., artist demonstrations (see schedule below) and a dvd/video presentation running continuously in the Main Gallery during the exhibition.

Artist demonstrations will take place during the exhibition on Rails End's outdoor patio:

Feats of Clay (pottery) Saturday, May 19, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Eco-Centric (fibre and jewelry) Saturday, June 2, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Chariot of Fire (glass) Saturday, June 16, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information visit www.railsendgallery.com.

Devolin announces \$80,000 in accessibility upgrades

Money to install automatic doors, accessible washroom

Notices



TENDER FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF HIGHLANDS EAST

Tenders will be accepted for the following work:

1) 2012-01 Brushing at Bicroft Landfill

Specifications for the above work can be obtained at the Municipal Office located in Wilberforce, Ward 1 Office located on Monck Road in Cardiff and the Ward 3 Office located in Gooderham during regular office hours.

Please provide a tender deposit in the form of a certified cheque for 10% of the tender amount.

Closing date is April 30th, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

Sealed tenders will be received at the address shown below and must be clearly identified as "Brushing at Bicroft Landfill".

Tender documents will be opened on April 30th at 2:15 p.m. at the Highlands East Ward One Office located at 2778 Monck Road, Cardiff, Ontario.

The lowest or any bid is not necessarily accepted.

Glen S. Covert
 Environmental Supervisor
 P.O. Box 160, Monck Road
 CARDIFF, ON K0L 1M0
 Phone: (613) 339-2442
 Cell: (613) 334-0994
 Fax: (613) 339-1028

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE GORDON JAMES GREEN

All creditors and others having claims against the Estate of **GORDON JAMES GREEN**, late, of the Township of Dysart, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 23rd day of March 2012, are required to file the particulars of such claim with the undersigned solicitor for said Estate on or before the 8th day of May 2012.

AND TAKE NOTICE that after the last day named, the assets of the said Estate will be distributed amongst the persons entitled hereto the Estate Trustee of the Estate, having regard only to the claims of which the solicitor below shall have notice.

Dated at Haliburton, Ontario the 12th day of April 2012.

RAYMOND G. SELBIE
 Barrister, Solicitor P.O. Box 699
 Haliburton, Ontario
 K0M 1S0

nities."

"Growing older shouldn't stop someone from enjoying their life or contributing to the community," added Devolin.

"Canada's Economic Action Plan is investing in communities across Canada to ensure that no one is excluded from participating because of a physical barrier."

Since the first call for proposals in 2008, the Enabling Accessibility Fund has supported more than 800 projects across the country, including 188 new projects totalling \$6.2 million that were recently announced.

The Enabling Accessibility Fund was originally announced in 2007 as a three-year, \$45-million program to support community-based projects across Canada.

In 2010, the fund was extended with an additional three-year, \$45-million commitment and the creation of a new mid-sized component.

All applications for funding through the Enabling Accessibility Fund's 2011 call for proposals were screened against mandatory program criteria and for completeness.

Successful projects demonstrated they were able to create or enhance accessibility for people with disabilities within Canada and involve community partnerships.

Submitted by Barry Devolin's office



Barry Devolin announced two large accessibility grants last week for the riding. File photo

Cheer on vocalists and instrumentalists starting April 18

West Guilford

Eleanor Cooper

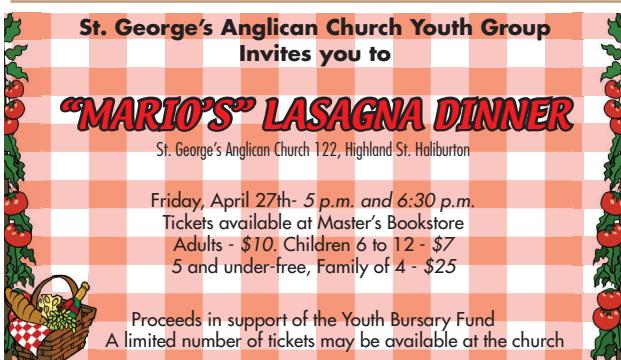
754-2278

Garry and Ruth Cooper have recently spent over a week in Atlanta with Ruth's oldest son Jonathan and his wife, Janice and family. The time was precious with the grandchildren, Amelia, Benjamin and Caleb.

Shane and Linda Sisson spent the month of March in Arizona enjoying plenty of sunshine while winter finished off here in Guilford.

We're proud of Liz Jesseman in her fundraising effort in the crafting of Pink Ribbon Bunnies and their sale in support of the Kelly Shires Foundation. This charity provides support to women who cope with breast cancer and its treatment. The bunnies, soft and pretty are a comfort to each person who receives them.

Welcome to the annual music festival at the high school's Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion on April 18, 19, and 20. The presentation of musicianship, vocals and instrumental is a real delight. This is not competitive in



nature, but highly qualified musicians give adjudication on each performance, which encourages every performer. It's free to the public and it's great to have an audience to cheer on the vocalists and instrumentalists.

April 18 is all vocals beginning at 10:30 a.m. April 19 is instrumental, concluding with piano beginning at 9 a.m. April 20 is all piano beginning at 9 a.m.

Euchre on April 10 scores: high - Colleen Davison and Robert McIvor; low - Alice Jones and Henk van Nood; most lone hands - Ann McIvor and Reg Coulter.

Sign up for news alerts on our website:
www.haliburtonecho.ca



Coming Events

Hike for Hospice Palliative Care

COME HIKE WITH US!

Saturday, April 28, 2012

Donate Pledge or Hike

100% of funds raised stay in Haliburton County to support **SIRCH** Community Services Community Hospice

Collect pledges and join us for a 5 km hike on the Haliburton Head Lake Trail or a 1 km hike around the track.

Hike as an individual or sign up a team!

Registration at 10:15 am at **Haliburton Highlands Secondary School**

Hike begins at **11:00 am** with a memorial walk

Post hike activities include:

- Entertainment
- Prizes
- Awards for individual and team with most pledges collected
- After Hike picnic provided by Rhubarb.

Donations can be made and pledge forms downloaded at our website. Click on Events www.sirch.on.ca

National Hospice Palliative Care Week May 6-12, 2012

100% of all funds raised in our community stay in our community

community calendar

What's happening in the County



Post your event for free on the web. Go to: www.mindentimes.ca or to the Haliburton Highlands Community Calendar link at: www.haliburtonecho.ca

April 21: Ham Dinner 5:30 p.m. at Maple Lake United Church \$12 Reservations recommended Call 705-286-2130 for infomation

April 25: Spring Luncheon, Haliburton United Church, 10 George St, Haliburton 11:30am-1:30pm Soup, Sandwiches, Dessert & Beverage \$8.00 (Proceeds to support local charities)

April 27: African Film Night to help support the Stephen Lewis Foundation located at the Minden United Church Tickets \$8 in advance \$10 at the door. For more information call 705-286-3226

April 28: The Haliburton County Snowmobile Assoc. is having their AGM at Sandy Lane Resort, Highway 35 North of Carnarvon at 10am Everyone Welcome

April 28: SIRCH Hike for Hospice Collect pledges on your own or get a team together and join us at Haliburton High School at 10:15 AM to register. Hike begins at 11 AM. Light refreshments, BBQ, entertainment and awards for most pledges collected. **100% of funds raised stay in our community!**

Members of the Maple Lake U.C are collecting Bottles & Cans to raise money for the Church's new Washroom. Liquor, wine, beer bottles or cans plus pop cans are being accepted please contact Maggie at 705-754-2968 for pick up

WANTED: Volunteers / Members for a grass-root organization in Haliburton area focused on Property Rights and Personal Freedoms. Call Brad: 705-448-9936

• **Welcome to TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly)** Monday Mornings located at Community Care weigh in begins at 9:30a.m. Short meeting after call Don or Mary Jane at 705-447-2420

• **Community Care Haliburton County Social Recreation** (in the drop-in centre) Wii games – Tuesday 9:30 a.m. – noon Contract Bridge – Monday 1-4 p.m. Cribbage – Fridays 1 – 4 p.m. For any additional information call 705-457-2941 Ext. 226

• **Haliburton Highlands Hand Weavers & Spinners Guild** meet at the Zion United Church, Carnarvon on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:30pm For more information call Marian Gillanders at 705-489-3574

• **The Haliburton Highland's Rug Hookers** meet every other Monday at the Minden Legion

from 10-2. Learn traditional rug hooking or bring an ongoing project. Call Linda 705-447-1169 or Peggy 705-286-3387

• **Help to Preserve our History** with a veterans museum Wanted: British, Canadian or German WWI and WWII items Uniforms, helmets and caps and metals, photographs, shells and weapons Please do not donate money. Items broken or in part are welcome. Contact Martin Hofland at 705-457-2382

• **Minden Food Bank** is in desperate need of more volunteers. For any one interested they can call the Food Bank from 9-4 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays or by emailing us at mindencommunityfoodbank@bellnet.ca Thanks in advance for your assistance.

• **Royal Canadian Legion Minden Branch 636** is looking for volunteers to help out in the branch kitchen. If you can spare a few hours each week to help the Legion continue their support to the community and the membership please call the branch at 705-286-4541. It will be much appreciated.

• **SMART Seniors Maintaining Active Roles Together** is a safe, gentle exercise program to maintain strength, balance and flexibility. \$2 per session. In Minden Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. in Hyland Crest auditorium. Thursdays in Haliburton at Echo Hills at 1:00pm. To register call Carol at 705-286-2500 ext. 265 or Melanie Therrien (VON) at 800-743-6255 ext 6451.

• **TOASTMASTERS** meet at the Minden United Church Wednesdays at 7pm Everyone Welcome ages 18 – 80. What is TOASTMASTERS ? Visit www.toastmasters.org

Events listings are provided **FREE for non-profit groups on a space-available basis**. While we endeavour to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be emailed to jmceathron@mindentimes.ca or brought in to the office.

Please submit events by the Wednesday prior to the requested publication date.

NOTE: This calendar is not a comprehensive listing of all events taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in the Echo for more information on events in the Highlands. For more Ongoing Community Events please see the Weekender.



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the distribution driver position.

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special editions throughout the county.
Approximately 8 hour every Wednesday.

A clean driving record is required.

Please apply by email to

john.bauman@sunmedia.ca

Career & Business Opportunities



PROGRAM/DATA ASSISTANT POSITION

Cottage Dreams Cancer Recovery Initiative is looking for a Program/Data Assistant. This position is a contract position for 20 weeks. The intern will be responsible for several tasks that include working with new applicants on a daily basis, supporting marketing initiatives to raise awareness of the organization through the media and database outreach. The ideal candidate will have basic computer skills, good communications skills to deal with the public and be able to multi-task. A mature, empathetic attitude is a must to interact with cancer survivors.

Email resume to: program.info@cottagedreams.org



**COMMUNITY OUTREACH
YOUTH INTERN**

Community Care Haliburton County, a non for profit, charitable organization is seeking a **Community Outreach Youth Intern**. This position is a 36 week contract, the successful candidate will have the opportunity to learn about charitable and not for profit organizations, develop skills for future employability and to build connections within Haliburton County. For a detailed description visit our website: www.communitycarehaliburton.com.

Applications are due on Monday April 30th by 4:00pm to Maureen Trimble, Executive Director, CCHC P.O. Box 956, 83 Maple Ave. Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 or to Maureen@cchaliburton.com. We thank all those that apply but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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Weekly Events April 16 to April 22

Monday	Bid Euchre	7 p.m.
Wednesday	Darts	7:30 p.m.
Friday	Pool	1:30 p.m.
	Spaghetti Dinner	5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
	Jam Session	7 p.m. - Come to play

or listen to great music.

Saturday Meat Draw 2 p.m.

Sunday Retro Sunday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Retro Sunday - 1 to 6 p.m. - Good old fashioned fun at retro prices. Free pool, some jamming and low '50s prices at the bar.



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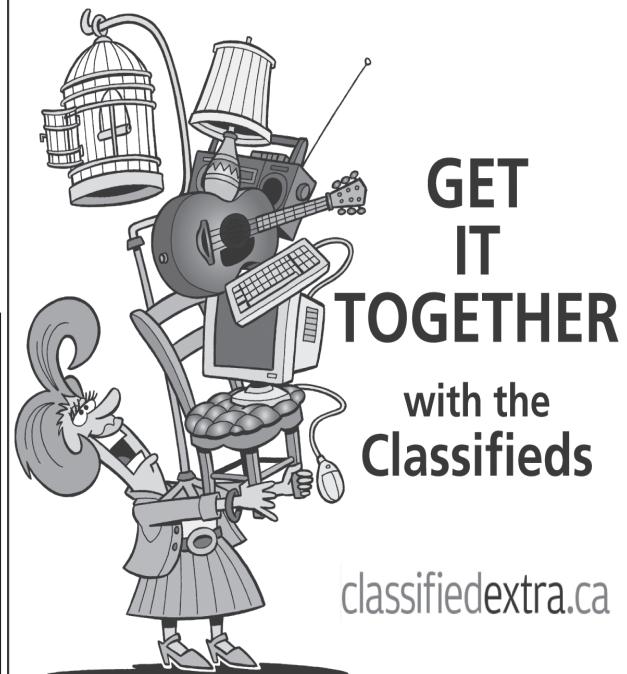
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Marking your milestones.

First Time Grandparents Harry and Peggy Morgan are delighted to announce



The Arrival of :
Elijah James Morgan, 8 lbs., 9 oz.
Feb 23, 2012
Proud Parents **Chris And Jenn**
First Time Great-Grandma:
Edna Morgan

Births

LUKE AND KELLY MARTINDALE (KUPPER) are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter

MALLORY GRACE MARTINDALE

Born Tuesday, March 27th at the Welland Hospital, weighing 6 lbs 15 oz.

Proud grandparents are Peeter & Debbie Kupper and Brian & Julie Martindale

Excited aunts and uncles are Meagan, Kelly, Joel & Jason, as well as big cousin Peyton.

Mallory will be spending lots of time up at the cottage this summer!

12552134

Deaths

REIL, Edward "Teddy" - Passed away peacefully at his home in Gooderham on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at the age of 72. Dear son of the late Thomas and Inez Reil and brother of the late Sylvia. Brother-in-law of Grenville Graham, uncle to Lynn, Cheryl and Joe, Jeff and Robin, great uncle to Tracy, Tammie, Tiffany, Brittny, great great uncle to Alanna, Cody, Logan and Jena. Fondly remembered by his family and friends. Friends are invited to visit the family at the **GORDON A. MONK FUNERAL HOME LTD.**, P.O. Box 427, 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., Minden K0M 2K0 on Sunday, April 15, 2012 from 2:00 until 5:00 pm and on Monday April 16, 2012 from 11:00 am until the time of the Funeral Service in the Chapel at 1:00 pm. Interment at Glamorgan Cemetery, Gooderham. Reception to follow at the Gooderham Community Centre. Memorial Donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

Thank You Cards

THANK YOU - to everyone who participated in our recent Wild Game Dinner and Auction. To all volunteers, donors of auction items and wild game, all those who attended, Legion Br. 129. We once again were able to have a successful evening. Your continued support is appreciated. Approximately \$6,800. was raised for our on-going conservation efforts. See you at next years event!

Wild Game dinner Committee, Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association.

12552797

Show everyone your appreciation.

Call 1-866-541-6757 and leave a Thank You Note on this page.

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Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Celebrations | More

Card of thanks

The family of **Elva Milburn** would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to our family, friends and neighbours for their support, expressions of sympathy, donations, floral arrangements and food. Thank you to Barry Cray, Kirstin Monk and staff for their guidance and support and to the ladies and gentlemen of Ingoldsby United Church who catered the wonderful luncheon. Thank you to Rev. Harry Morgan for the beautiful service and heartfelt words. The excellent care and compassion given by Dr. Stephenson, nurses, personal support workers and other health care professionals is very much appreciated. Thank you all so very much!

The Milburn Family

12554975

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In memoriam

In loving memory of our Mom
MARJORIE BILLINGS

Although we're not together,
We will never be apart,
Because you have that special place,
Right here within our heart
Always & forever

You are missed so very much
Debi & Glenn, April, Kenton & Summer
Roger & Deb
and by your family

12554440

In Memory of Vic Stewart
June 13, 1937 - April 17, 2007

You are never far from my thoughts
I miss you,
Carol

12544462

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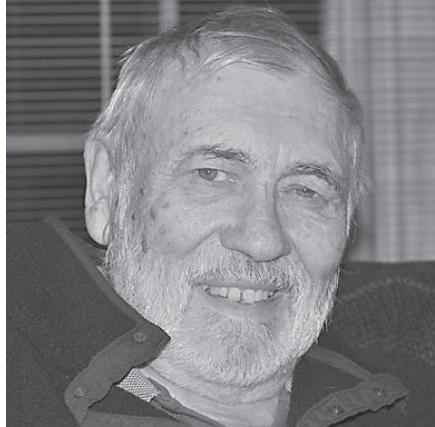
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Memories



LAMBIE, William (Bill) -
December 20, 1936 — April 19, 2011

In memory of a dearly loved, much missed and very special man who left us a year ago.

You will forever be in our hearts.
~ Stella and the family



PACEY, Harcourt (Sonny)
In loving memory of a dear husband, father and grandfather who passed away April 12, 2002
When old times we do recall,
it's then we miss you most of all.
Lovingly remembered,
Leola and Family

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Peace and tranquility! 8.84 ac lot, 379ft on no motor lake. 3+2 bedrooms. Open concept living area, fp, w/o to deck. Full fin w/o basement.

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